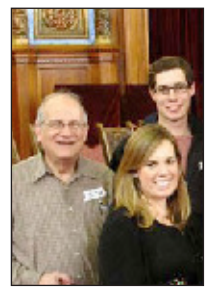
In this issue...

Focus on Israel's Arab Community

Page 8



Communal Conversations With JCLP

Page 10

Hillel at EMU Alternative Spring Break

Page 12

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WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

May 2011 Nissan/Iyar 5771 Volume XXXV: Number 8 FREE

Seventh annual Celebrate Israel salutes Israel's cultural diversity

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

As one of the most culturally diverse nations in the world, Israel is home to citizens with origins from every corner of the globe.

The Ann Arbor community will gather to celebrate Israel's 63rd birthday and to experience Israeli cultural diversity on Sunday, May 22, from 12:30–3:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. This event brings together representatives from Greater Ann Arbor's Jewish communal organizations to conceive, program and implement a joyous celebration of Israeli people, communities, and culture for over 600 celebrants of all ages.

PHOTO BY GREGORY FOX

Israeli Dancing at Celebrate Israel 2010

Celebrate Israel committee chair, Laurel Hern, looks forward to the festival. "This day is always a wonderful day full of fun as well as a special day for everyone to gather and celebrate what we love about Israel. With the participation and support of Ann Arbor's Jewish organizations, it is truly a community event that I'm proud to chair and an event that everyone will enjoy," she said.

As in previous years, participants will enjoy Israeli dancing, tasty Israeli street food and top-notch entertainment. There will be fun Israel-themed activities for the entire family, and a *shuk* (marketplace) with Israeli merchandise. This year's theme, is "Many Communities: One Nation," and the festival will include activities such as an olive press, Druze pita making, Israeli game center, kibbutz activities and more. Says Hern, "This year's theme is really great as we highlight the richness and variety of Israel's people and communities."

For the fourth year in a row, Ann Arbor will host a delegation from its Partnership 2000 community, Moshav Nahalal. The delegation will develop an exhibit focusing on the contribution of *moshavim* to Israeli society.

Entry to Celebrate Israel is $5/individual and $15/family. Additional donations may be made to benefit the Nahalal-Ann Arbor Park at Moshav Nahalal. Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Become a sponsor and get free entry, a t-shirt, food voucher or preferred parking. For more information or to register, volunteer or sponsor Celebrate Israel, visit www.jewishannarbor.org/celebrateisrael or contact Eileen Freed at celebrateisrael@jewishannarbor.org or 677-0100. ■

Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor celebrates 36 years

Dina Shtull, special to the WJN

In 1974, a small group of dedicated individuals gathered to discuss the possibility of establishing a Jewish day school in Ann Arbor. "How do you start?" reminisced founder Tzivia Garfinkel whose granddaughter Priya Weisberg now attends the school. "You start with 13 families who… are willing to be *chalutzim* (pioneers) in Jewish education. Those 13 families would eat, drink, sleep, and breathe Hebrew Day School for years," said Garfinkel. "There were endless meetings to deal with ideology, policy, and general direction of the school," commented founder Yehuda Reinharz who went on to become president of Brandeis University, "and a wonderful esprit de corps among those who had made a decision that a Hebrew Day School in Ann Arbor [would be] a major contribution to the life of the Jewish community." "I remember my parents, Birdie and Sam Garfinkel, z''l, rolling up their sleeves and building the cots that the *gansters* (kindergartners) would use for rest time each day," shared Garfinkel.

Barry and Susan Gross

The Ann Arbor Jewish community came together at a joyous gathering in March to celebrate the school's impact and legacy and to honor the many people who contributed to its success, in particular Susan and Barry Gross, who were involved in the school's progress for 26 of the 36 years. The Gross family enrolled their oldest daughter Lauren (HDS 1991) after an initial start in public school, and then their other children, Carrie (HDS 1994) and Paul (HDS 1997).

continues on page 29

JCC Jewish Film Festival returns to the Michigan Theater May 15–19

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

The 10th annual Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival returns to Ann Arbor May 15–19. The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor, in association with the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit and the Michigan Theater, will showcase 15 films over five days at the Michigan Theater on East Liberty.

Scene from *Inside Hana's Suitcase*

The festival will open at 2 p.m. with a showing of *Inside Hana's Suitcase*. The film tells the story of a group of Japanese children and how their passionate teacher helped them solve the mystery of Hana Brady, whose name was painted on an old battered suitcase that they received from Auschwitz. There is no charge for students ages 13 and under.

The opening night sponsor reception, catered by Lori Shepard of Simply Scrumptious Catering, will begin at 6:30 p.m. At 8 p.m., following the reception, the film *The Yankels* will be shown.

Of the 15 films, 10 of the films are foreign, including six from Israel.

This year's event will feature two Lunch and Learn programs at the Michigan Theater. The

continues on page 4

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We've all been affected by the rise in postage costs. In addition, other expenses related to publishing the ***Washtenaw Jewish News*** have also increased. In order to maintain the quality of this publication, we have decided to apply for the second class periodical rate. To that end, we have to show the post office that our readers want to keep receiving the ***Washtenaw Jewish News.***

You can help! Please sign the postcard included in this month's paper, affix a 44¢ stamp, and mail it back to us —or drop it off at our office at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Our goal is to hear back from 80% of our readers by June 18.

Confirm your free subscription by June 18 and you'll automatically be entered into our prize drawing. One respondent, chosen at random, will receive a $25 gift certificate, good at any business advertising in the ***Washtenaw Jewish News!***

Thanks for your support!

Community Yom Hazikaron ceremony at Beth Israel

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

The Community Wide Yom Hazikaron Ceremony for Greater Ann Arbor will take place on Sunday, May 8, from 7–8 p.m. at Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw Avenue. Yom Hazikaron, which is often translated as Israel Remembrance Day, is a time for Israelis and Jews the world over to take a moment to mourn the loss of Israeli soldiers and victims of terror. Coming as it does a day before Israeli Independence Day, this one-hour ceremony provides a very powerful emotional experience to everyone present. Since the establishment of the State of Israel, there have been more than 22,000 fallen soldiers and 3,700 victims of terror.

In the ceremony in Ann Arbor, volunteers and clergy from the community will present memorial poems and songs (with piano accompaniment) in Hebrew and English and screen a PowerPoint display which memorializes the lives of some of the fallen, including those who have died over the past year. Many of the works included mirror those used in Israeli ceremonies. The planning committee, chaired by Malli Holoshitz, includes Roby Lehavy, Zevi Bareket, Brett Wilner, Shirley Kopelman, Michael Pedersen, Guy Shani, Elliot Sorkin and Rabbi Robert Dobrusin.

The JCC's Amster Gallery to feature the Jaffa Mosaic Photography Exhibit

Mimi Weisberg, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will host the inspirational photographic journey, "Jaffa Mosaic Photography Exhibit" to the Amster Gallery, April 15–June 1. The Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues is the sponsor of this special exhibit. The exhibit includes photographs by ten women who document their lives through film.

Noa Guez, artist and masters of art student in art therapy, began a workshop which allowed Israeli Jewish and Arab women to use photography to share their experiences. The participants, ages 20 to 60, come from Jewish, Muslim, and Christian backgrounds. The women were brought together by their love of photography and their desire to get to know one another better.

This is the first time the exhibit has been seen in North America and offers a glimpse of the photographers' lives and the challenges and successes they experience.

For more information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or 971-0990.

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

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Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* are available at locations throughout Washtenaw County.

In this issue…

Advertisers 35
Calendar 30
Congregations 22
Israel 25
Kosher Cuisine 29
On Another Note 27
Seniors 7
Youth 14
Vitals 35
Washington D.C. 24
Women 7
World Jewry 26

L'Dor Vador: TBE service to feature music of Hugo and Samuel Adler

Cantor Annie Rose, special to the WJN

On Friday, May 20, at 7:30 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth will celebrate Shabbat with a musical service featuring the music of two great American Jewish composers, Hugo Chaim Adler and his son Samuel Adler. Although the music of both Adlers fills synagogues and concert halls around the world, TBE has a special connection to both men and their music. Hugo's daughter and son-in-law, Marianne and Ron Aaron, are TBE members, as are their children and grandchildren.

Cantor Annie Rose and Kol Halev will be joined by two of Ron and Marianne's sons, renowned cellist Richard Aaron and Rabbi Jonathan Aaron, as well as Samuel Adler's daughter Naomi. Marianne will share recollections of her father and will introduce her brother Samuel, who will speak as well.

One of the most influential cantors and composers of Jewish music in the first half of the twentieth century, Hugo Adler was born in Belgium and educated in Germany. He served as cantor of the synagogue in Mannheim for nearly 20 years and was very active in the Kulturbund movement in Germany. His music was performed all over Europe. After his arrival in the United States in 1939, Hugo Adler became cantor and music director of Temple Emanuel in Worcester, Massachusetts, where he served until his death in 1955. Cantor Adler contributed masterpieces to the Jewish choral repertoire that helped shape the character and future of American Jewish music.

Samuel Adler

Samuel Adler is the composer of over 400 published works. His operas, symphonies, concerti, string quartets, oratorios, and other compositions for large and small ensembles have been performed all over the world. He is the author of three widely-used books that have been translated into many languages and serve as central texts for study around the world: *Choral Conducting; Sight Singing;* and *The Study of Orchestration.*

Having studied conducting with Serge Koussevitsky and composition with Herbert Fromm, Walter Piston, Randall Thompson, Paul Hindemith, and Aaron Copland, Adler went on to become not only a composer and conductor, but also a professor at several universities including Eastman School of Music and Julliard, where he currently is a member of the music composition faculty. He has given master classes and workshops at over 300 universities around the world.

Hugo Chaim Adler

The musical Shabbat will be followed by an oneg. All are invited to attend. ■

For further information, call Cantor Annie Rose at 665-4744.

JFS Patient Partners Program receives Innovation Award from AJFCA

Jennifer Arapoff, special to WJN

Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County (JFS) has received the esteemed 2011 Association of Jewish Families and Children Agencies (AJFCA) Goodman Award for its innovative Patient Partners program.

AJFCA is a membership organization of more than 130 Jewish family and children's agencies in the U.S. and Canada. Its Goodman Award is given to an agency program or service that demonstrates a "creative, sustainable and replicable program" that responds to a community problem through outreach and community building.

The JFS Patient Partners program enlists highly skilled volunteers to accompany older adult clients not only to medical appointments, but through the appointment. Volunteers meet with the clients before the appointment to help prepare questions, drive with them to the appointment, and assist the older adults through discussions with the doctors, helping them take notes for future reference.

Judging for the Goodman Award was done by five representatives of AJFCA member agencies, and some professional and lay leaders. The Patient Partners program was recognized for incorporating a Jewish component, an outreach component, and a community-building component. "The Patient Partners program embodies what The Goodman Award is all about," says Lee Sherman, president/CEO of AJFCA. "What we found so unique about Patient Partners is that it actually meets two community needs at once — the need for older adults to have assistance handling doctor appointments, and the desire to engage baby boomers as volunteers in the community."

JFS of Washtenaw County will present a workshop at the AJFCA conference in Calgary in May, describing the Patient Partner program and how it can be replicated in other communities.

"We take great pride in the creativity and dedication of our staff in achieving our mission like this," says JFS Executive Director Anya Abramzon. "The Patient Partners program was the brainchild of the JFS director of Older Adult Services, Abbie Lawrence-Jacobson, and director of Community Resources, Deborah Renner. The Goodman Award is such a fantastic testament to their vision." Since the program's inception, JFS has accompanied older adults to more than 180 doctor appointments. ■

To learn more about the program, contact Abbie Lawrence-Jacobson at 769-0209 or abbie@jfsannarbor.org.

Chaverim B'Shirim to perform music of composer Kurt Weill

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

Chaverim B'Shirim, Ann Arbor's own all-volunteer choir, will entertain the community as they perform music from Kurt Weill at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor on Sunday, May 1, at 3 p.m.

The choir will perform excerpts from many shows including, *Knickerbocker Holiday, Lady in the Dark, One Touch of Venus* and *Lost in the Stars*. Several entertaining numbers will include "The Saga of Jenny" and "The Trouble with Women" among others.

Kurt Julian Weill was a Jewish composer, active in his native Germany from the 1920s, and in his later years in the United States. He was a leading composer for the stage and was well known for his fruitful collaborations with Bertolt Brecht. With Brecht, he developed productions such as his most wellknown work *The Threepenny Opera*, a Marxist critique of capitalism, which included the ballad "Mack the Knife." Weill was a socialist who held the ideal of writing music that served a socially useful purpose. He also wrote a number of works for the concert hall, as well as several Jewish-themed pieces.

A $5 donation is suggested and refreshments will be served. For more information, contact the JCC at 971-0990.

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Jewish Film Festival returns to the Michigan Theater

continued from page 1

program on Monday, May 16, will feature Marcia Fishman, director of the Michigan Office of the Screen Actors Guild. She will lead a discussion on the Michigan film industry. The program on Wednesday, May 18, will feature Judith Laikin Elkin, Ph.D., author of *The Jews of Latin America*; Myriam Schlossberg, current resident of the Jewish community in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Sue Sefansky, LMSW, ACSW; and David Eduardo Schteingart, MD. They will discuss the Jews of Argentina. Both lunch and learns will begin at noon. The cost for each program is $8 for JCC members and $10 for non-members.

Several additional guest speakers will take part in the festival this year, including Jamie Wraight, executive director of the Voice/Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive, University of Michigan/Dearborn. She will lead a discussion following the film *Inside Hana's Suitcase* on Monday, May 16. Following the 1:30 p.m. film *Brothers* on Thursday, May 19, guest speaker Marc Bernstein, associate professor of Jewish and Muslim Studies at Michigan State University, will lead a discussion.

The festival will conclude on May 19 with the showing of the 2009 winner of the Mexican Film Festival, *Nora's Will*. This story takes a humorous tone towards families who struggle to cope with the death of a loved one.

The Jewish Film Festival is made possible thanks to the Michael and Patricia Levine Philanthropic Foundation, the Charles and Rita Gelman Educational Foundation, and the many generous sponsors of the event. Additionally, the Ann and Jules Doneson Film Festival Endowment Fund was established by Shira and Steve Klein to help insure the festival's longevity. This year's festival chairs are Levana Aronson and Elaine Margolis. The festival will also take place in Commerce Township, Birmingham, and Flint.

Individual movie tickets are $10 each or a Festival Pass can be purchased for viewing all 15 movies. Festival Passes cost $80 if you are a JCC member or $85 for non-members, and can be purchased at the JCC.

Tax-deductible sponsorship opportunities are available with a $360 donation or more. Look for more information about the Jewish Film Festival, sponsorship opportunities and special Festival programming on the JCC website. Those interested in becoming a sponsor should contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or 971-0990.

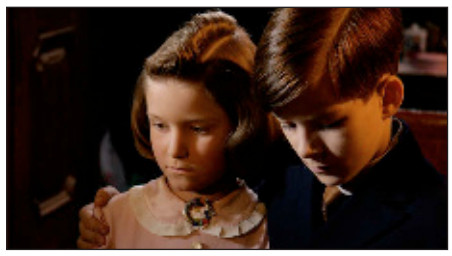
2011 Film schedule

Sunday, May 15

2 p.m. ***Inside Hana's Suitcase*** – Canada, 2009, 88 minutes

Guest Speaker: Jamie Wraight, executive director of the Voice/Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive, University of Michigan, Dearborn

Based on the internationally acclaimed book *Hana's Suitcase,* that has been translated into 40 languages, this film is an effective blend of documentary and dramatic techniques. This film tells the present-day story of a group of Japa-



nese children and how their passionate teacher helped them solve the mystery of Hana Brady, whose name was painted on an old battered suitcase that they received from Auschwitz. This film shows one way to bring the dialogue of anti-Semitism and tolerance to youth.

6:30 p.m. Sponsor's Reception

8 p.m. The Yankles – USA, 2010, 115 minutes

Based on a true story, an ex-con finds redemption by coaching an upstart, disorganized Orthodox Jewish baseball team. Take Charlie, a recently out of prison, washed-up baseball player whose probation requires community service; add a gaggle of yeshiva students in love with baseball; then put them together in a pot

and stir into a sweet dramedy. Against a backdrop of rabbinical supervision and the players' Orthodox practice, Charlie coaxes and cajoles his players into a capable team. *Tzitsis* and baseball bats do mix!

Monday, May 16

Noon – Lunch and Learn with Marcia Fishman, executive director of the Michigan Office of the Screen Actors Guild

1:30 p.m. ***Winston Churchill: Walking with Destiny*** – USA, 2010, 101 minutes

Narrated by Academy Award winner, Ben Kingsley,thisdocumentaryhighlightsChurchill's' years in the political wilderness, his early opposition to Adolf Hitler and Nazism and his support for Jews under threat by the Nazi regime. As historian John Lukacs explains, Churchill may not have won the war in 1940, but without him the war most certainly would have been lost. If Churchill's warnings about Nazi Germany's racial policies towards Jews had been heeded in the early 1930s, the Holocaust may never have occurred.

5 p.m. ***Howl*** – USA, 2010, 84 minutes (Rated R)

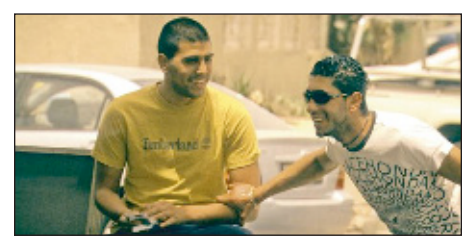
"An obscenity trial that started a revolution and a poem that shocked a generation!" *Howl* dives into the twisted life of famous poet Alan Ginsberg, played by Academy Award nominee, James Franco, and the controversial trial that surrounds his most well-known piece of work, "Howl." The issue of free speech is examined in San Francisco in 1957 when the appropriateness of Ginsberg's poetry is questioned during a long trial. Ginsberg is expertly played by Franco

and the trial lawyer is portrayed by Jon Hamm ("Mad Men").

2010 Nominee, Berlin International Film Festival; 2010 Winner, Sundance Film Festival, Freedom of Expression Award[and 2010 Nominee, Sundance Film Festival, Grand Jury Prize.

8 p.m. ***Ajami*** – Israel, 2009, 120 minutes, English subtitles

This is an unforgettable drama about an area of Jaffa where Arabs, Jews and Christians live together in a fragile peace. These are five stories about the everyday life in Ajami. Through forbidden love, unlikely friendships, family ties and rejection, most of them meet violence with violence.



2010 Nominee, Academy Award Best Foreign Language Film, 2010 Winner, Israeli Film Academy Best Film and Best Director.

Tuesday, May 17

1:30 p.m. ***Ingelore*** — USA, 2009, 40 minutes

Born a deaf Jew in 1924 in Germany, Ingelore Herz Honigstein narrates the events leading up to her escape from the Nazis, in speech and sign, revisiting past experiences with a startling degree of emotional clarity. Filmmaker Frank Stiefel's portrait of his mother, Ingelore, is a loving tribute to her courage and determination. Her amazing life shaped her into an extraordinary teacher and she demonstrates the power of light over darkness.

Followed by ***Just Like Home*** —Israel/Russia, 2009, 58 minutes, English subtitles

For the past ten years, a loving couple have managed Moscow's Jewish Orphanage, home to children who were abused, neglected, and abandoned by the people closest to them. It takes a lot of patience but slowly these children learn to regain their trust in humanity and secure a chance for a brighter future. This film offers a rare glimpse at life in a home with 30 children

and two "parents" who refuse to give up hope.

5 p.m. ***Seven Minutes in Heaven*** — Israel, 2008, 94 minutes, English subtitles

Mysticism and memory collide in this quietly powerful Israeli neo-noir thriller. Galia has spent the last year recovering from a terrorist bus bombing that left her physically and mentally scarred. With her fractured memory, Galia must relive the events surrounding the bombing in order to move forward with her life.

2009, Nominee, Israeli Film Academy Awards, Best Actress; 2009 Winner, Warsaw International Film Festival

8 p.m. ***The Human Resources Manager*** – Israel, 2010, 103 minutes

A human resources manager at Israel's largest bakery discovers his own humanity while escorting the body of a suicide-bomb victim back to her homeland in this quirky, seriocomic crowd-pleaser. Eran Riklis, the acclaimed director of *The Lemon Tree* and *The Syrian Bride*, brings a poignant and personal approach to a story that speaks to the ever-present threat of violence in Jerusalem and the increasing sense of social dislocation.

Wednesday, May 18

Noon - Lunch and Learn Program featuring

Judith Laikin Elkin, Ph.d., author of *The Jews of Latin America*: Myriam Schlossberg, current resident of the Jewish community in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Sue Sefansky, LMSW, ACSW; and David Eduardo Schteingart, MD.

1:30 p.m. ***Anita*** – Argentina, 2009, 104 minutes, English subtitles

Anita is a young Jewish Argentine woman with Down Syndrome living with her devoted mother, while her beloved older brother Ariel is making his own way in business. Everything changes on July 18, 1994, when a car bomb ex-

plodes outside the AMIA Jewish Community Center. Disoriented in the wake of the attack, Anita wanders the city in search of her missing mother, touching the lives of those around her while learning to care for herself. Meantime, her brother begins his desperate search for Anita hoping she would be alive. Anita is a profoundly hopeful study of human innocence, compassion and resilience in a fragile, troubled world.

Winner, Argentineans Academy Awards, Best Supporting Actress; Nominee, Argentinean Academy Awards, Best New Actress; and Nominee, Argentinean Academy Awards, Best Screenplay, Original.

5 p.m. ***Saviors in the Night*** – France and Germany, 2009, 95 minutes, English subtitles

Returning from Germany's eastern front in 1918, Menne Spiegel is decorated with the Iron Cross. Twenty-five years later, living as a popular horse merchant in Westphalia, he's branded with a different insignia: the Star of David. On the eve of a mass deportation of Jews, Spiegel seeks out his old comrade Heinrich Aschoff, a Catholic farmer with a conscience, who instantly agrees to shelter Spiegel's wife Marga and daughter Karen at his farm despite the risk

to his own family. Based on the real Marga Spiegel's best-selling memoir, Saviors in the Night relates the extraordinary story of the two families' perilous years together. An unforgettable true story of friendship, family and honor.

8 p.m. ***Holy Rollers*** – USA, 2010, 89 minutes (rated R)

This feature film is inspired by a late 1990's true story, when Hasidic Jews were used to smuggle ecstasy from Europe into the United States. Jesse Eisenberg's (The Social Network) character, Sam, leads the traditional lifestyle of an Orthodox Jew from Brooklyn. Sam's life takes

a dramatic turn when his neighbor and boss, Justin Bartha (National Treasure, The Hangover) persuades him into a new line of work.

2010 Winner, Gotham Awards, Breakthrough Director; 2010 Nominee, Sundance Film Festival, Grand Jury Prize (Dramatic).

Thursday, May 19

1:30 p.m. ***Brothers*** — Israel, 2010, 116 minutes, In Hebrew with English subtitles. Guest speaker Marc Bernstein, associate professor of Jewish and Muslim studies

Dan chooses to work on the land, living in a kibbutz in the south of Israel. Aaron, his brother, is a doctor of law and philosophy and a distinguished scholar of the Torah. He comes to Jerusalem from the U.S. to defend

the rights of the Torah scholars. The conflict that arises between the two brothers reflects that of a society torn between its religious and political principles.

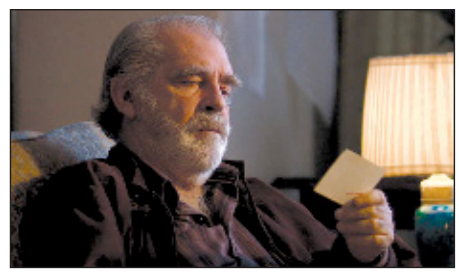
2009 Nominee, European Film Academy, Best Feature, 2009 Winner, FIPA D'OR, Best actress and Best Actor

5 p.m. ***The Matchmaker*** – (Once I Was) Israel, 2010, 112 minutes, In Hebrew with English subtitles

In 1968 Haifa, a teenage boy gets a summer job with a Holocaust survivor who makes ends meet by brokering marriages and smuggling goods. Throughout the summer, the mysterious matchmaker takes the boy on a dangerous coming of age ride into the deepest underbelly of Haifa. This feature film is a journey of first love, friends, secrets and truths.

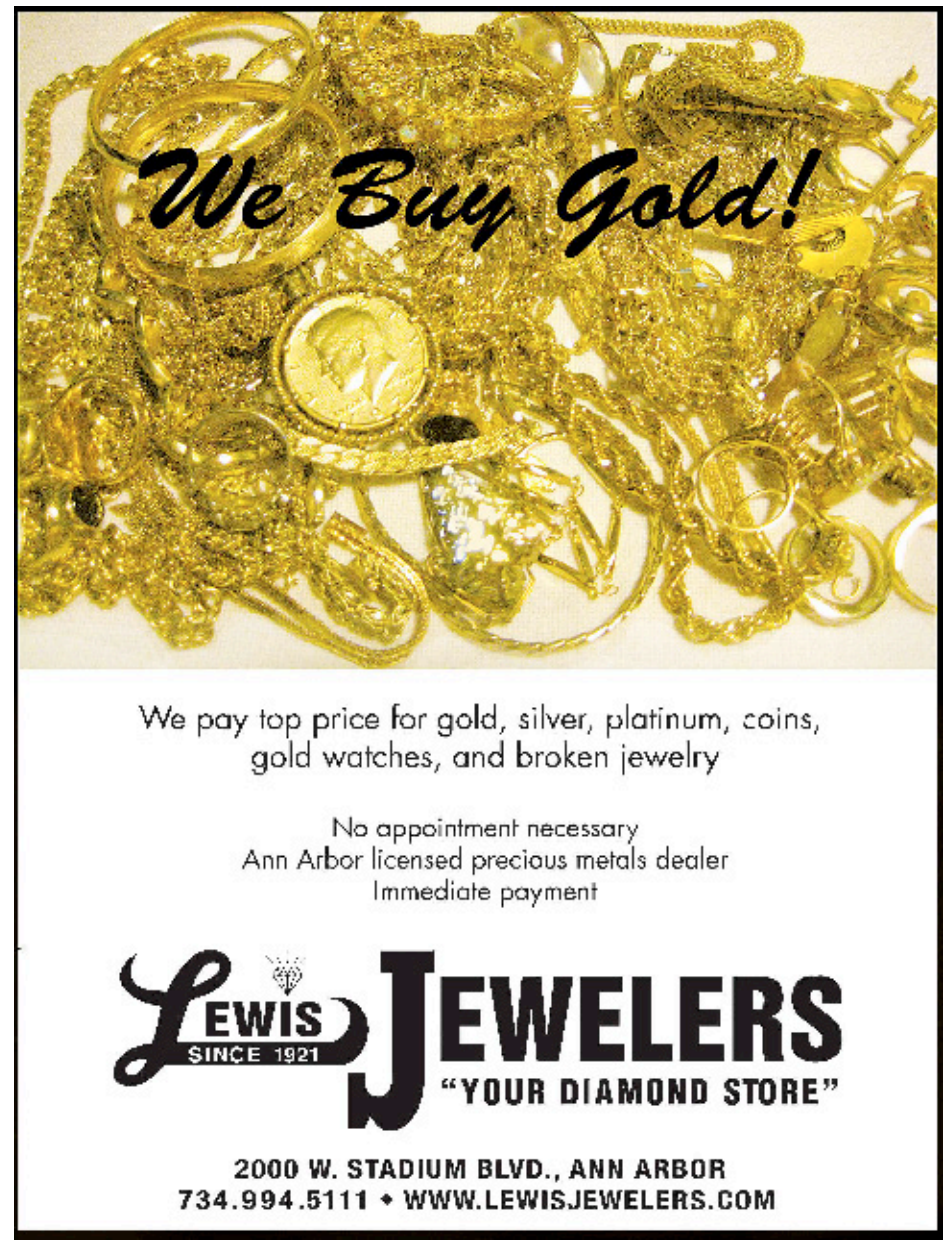
8 p.m. ***Nora's Will*** – Mexico, 2008, 92 minutes, Spanish with English subtitles

This story takes a humorous tone towards families who struggle to cope with the death of a loved one. Jose finds out that Nora, the woman he'd been married to for 30 years and then divorced, has committed suicide. The rabbi explains to Jose that due to the celebration of the Passover festivities, together



with a few other factors, if Nora is not buried that same day, they will have to wait almost five days to be able to carry out the burial. It turns out that before she died, Nora devised a Machiavellian plan in order to take care of her funeral. But she missed something. A mysterious photograph left under the bed will lead to an unexpected outcome that will remind us that sometimes the greatest love stories are hidden in the smallest places.

2009 Winner, Mexican Film Festival, Best Film and Best Director, ■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Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

Tuesdays

11 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10.
Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person.
1 p.m.: Games and Activities. Join in for a variety of games and activities including mahjong, quilting for the patients of Mott Hospital, art projects, and other card games.
1p.m.: Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No sports or computer experience necessary.

Thursdays

10 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10.
11 a.m.: Current Events with Heather Dombey. A discussion of this week's news. Bring items of interest for group discussion.
Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person.
1 p.m.: Thursday Special Events and Presentations (see below for details).
2:15 p.m.: Literary Group facilitated by Sidney Warschausky, Call Merrill Poliner, 971-0990, for more information and the current book.

Fridays

1:30 p.m.: Yiddish Reading Group at the Jewish Community Center. Call Ray Juni for additional information at 761-2765.

Special events and presentations

Thursday, May 5

12:30 p.m.: Birthday celebration for all with May birthdays. Family and friends are invited for lunch and birthday cake.
1 p.m.: Irene Butter, local Holocaust survivor, will speak in honor of Yom HaShoah.

Thursday, May 12

12:30 p.m.: A nurse from Care Response will monitor blood pressures. FREE.
1 p.m: Local musician, Martha Dalley, will perform on the piano.

Tuesday, May 17

1:30 p.m.: Jewish Film Festival showing of Ingelore, the story of Ingelore Herz Honistein's escape from the Nazis narrated in speech and sign language. NOTE: transportation will leave the JCC at 12:30 p.m. Reservations are required.

Thursday, May 19

1:30 p.m.: Jewish Film Festival showing of Brothers, the story of the conflict between brothers reflecting that of a society torn between its religious and political principals. Note: transportation will leave the JCC at 12:30 p.m. Reservations are required.

Wednesday, May 25

1 p.m.: Afternoon Delights concert with violinist Barbara Sturgis-Everett. $8 at the door.

Thursday, May 26

1 p.m.: Music students of the Hebrew Day School will perform vocal, instrumental and klezmer music.

Senior photography exhibit returns to the JCC

Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

All photographers 55 and over are invited to submit recent photographs to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's 2011 Senior Photography Exhibit. Photographers can submit up to six photographs of works that have not been exhibited at the JCC previously. The works can be of any size, but must be framed and ready for hanging.

Deadline for submissions is June 10. The exhibit will run from June 27 through July 31. There will be a reception for the exhibit opening on Sunday, June 26.

For more information and applications, contact Merrill Poliner at the JCC at 971-0990

Women's League Torah Fund event

Liesel Wardl, special to the WJN

Cindy Saper

The Women's League of Beth Israel Congregation invites the community to their Torah Fund Event on Wednesday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m., at Beth Israel. Cindy Saper will be honored for her immeasurable contributions and exemplary leadership as the director of education at Beth Israel Religious School. Happy (Sheila) Feigelson, PhD, will be the featured guest speaker, with her presentation "Lighten your Life with Laughter!"

The cost to attend this dessert reception is $5. To RSVP or for more information, contact Liesel Wardle at queeniellw00@aol.com or 945-8256..

In solidarity with Women of the Wall

Florence Gerber, special to the WJN

On April 5, and for the past seven months, a group gathered at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor for a Rosh Hodesh Service to show their support for the Women at the Wall. Women of the Wall's central mission is to achieve the social and legal recognition of the right of women to wear prayer shawls, pray and read from the Torah collectively and out loud at the Western Wall. They hold a service at the *Kotel* on Rosh Hodesh each month, but often have to cope with jeering, objects being thrown at them, and police enforcing Orthodox practice by asking them to sing more quietly, once even confiscating the Torah scroll because it was being held by a woman. Future Ann Arbor Rosh Chodesh Services to support the WOW will take place at 9:30 a.m. at the JCC on Thursday, May 5 (Iyar) and Friday, June 3 (Sivan). Contact Lisa Bernstein at lisapbernstein@comcast.net for more information.

(left to right) Michele Leshan, Lisa Bernstein, Laura Hirshbein, Florence Gerber, and Janice Gutfreund

Hadassah celebrates 100 years of progress

Maxine Solvay, special to the WJN

Founded in 1912 by Henrietta Szold, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, is the largest women's Zionist volunteer organization in the United States with over 300,000 Members, Associates and supporters. Represented with a member in every congressional district in every state, Puerto Rico, and in more than 30 countries, Hadassah is one of the world's leaders in stem cell research, recognized for major breakthroughs in Type 1 diabetes, breast and colon cancer, Crohn's disease, macular degeneration, ALS and Parkinson's disease.

In celebration of 100 years of progress, Hadassah is inviting every member of the community to become a Life Member or male Associate at the celebratory price of $100—a once in a lifetime offer. Every enrollment guarantees the continuation and expansion of world-class research, pace-setting healthcare, global humanitarian relief, progressive higher education, critical at-risk children's programs, revolutionary environmental improvements and vital social action and advocacy which will have important impact on present and future generations.

To learn more about Hadassah and take advantage of this once in a lifetime offer, visit www.hadassah.org/100 or contact the local Hadassah Life Membership chair, Charlene Yudowin, 5785 Dartmouth Ct, Ypsilanti, MI, 49197, cyudowin@comcast.net.

(This celebration offer is valid January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011; no prior payments, deductions or other offers may be combined with this offer.)

Nancy Margolis to speak at Hadassah closing event

Wendy Maybaum, special to the WJN

Nancy Margolis

Everyone in the community is invited to learn more about synagogues and enjoy a morning of delicious food at the Ann Arbor Chapter of Hadassah's annual closing event. Nancy Margolis, who served as executive director of the Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor from 1988–2000, will discuss the history of synagogues and show photographs of those that she has visited in her travels around the world. Marci Feinberg, who served as the editor of the Hadassah newsletter and is coordinator of technology for the chapter, will be honored at the brunch for her many years of outstanding service. Feinberg joined the Ann Arbor Chapter of Hadassah in 1990. Attendees are asked to bring a Jewish brunch dish to pass. The event will be held June 26, from 10 a.m.–noon, at the home of Heather Dombey, 3030 Provincial Road. There is no charge for this event, and one does not need to be a Hadassah member to attend. RSVP to Wendy Maybaum at 417-3372 or e-mail wmaybaum@gmail.com.

Speakers and exhibits highlight Israel's Arab community

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

Two recent speakers sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor provided an opportunity to hear nuanced perspectives and increased awareness of some of the issues facing the Arab community in Israel.

On March 22, Professor Elie Rekhess, Visiting Crown Chair in Middle East Studies at Northwestern University, gave a talk titled, "Why are Israeli Arabs a Jewish Issue? What Can the North American Jewish Community Do to Ensure a Jewish and Democratic Israel?" to over 40 participants. On March 31, 20 community members attended a lunch program featuring Helmi Kettani, executive director of the Center for Jewish-Arab Economic Development (CJAED).

Rekhess's program was coordinated in conjunction with the Interagency Task Force for Israeli Arab Issues, a coalition of North American Jewish organizations, foundations, private philanthropists, and international affiliates, which aims to generate awareness in the North American Jewish and Israeli communities to advance civic equality in Israel, where Israeli Jews and Arabs can contribute, participate and benefit as full citizens.

Charles Butter

(left to right) Helmi Kittani, David Shtulman, and Mike Levine

Historical perspective

Rekhess expressed the crux of the issues facing the Arab Israeli community by quoting Israeli Arab academic, Sami Mar'i: "The problem is that Israel has an Arab minority with the mentality of majority living with a Jewish majority with mentality of a minority."

Rekhess provided an historical overview of the status of Israel's Arab minority, which comprises some 20 percent of the population. In Israel's early years its policies reflected an ambivalence of how to balance the goals of building a nation with a Jewish identity and minimizing the security risk of a potentially hostile minority group with the commitment to equality and inclusion for all citizens. A policy of "Israelization" was designed to integrate Arabs into Israeli life, and granted Arabs full citizenship; guaranteed individual rights; and provided semi-collective rights such as making Arabic one of Israel's official languages, establishing semi-autonomous schools in the Arab sector and providing jurisdiction for religious courts. However, the Jewish and Arab communities remained largely segregated by separate educational institutions, separate towns and villages and the fact that, with the exception of the Druze and some of the Bedouin community, Arabs do not serve in the Israel Defense Forces. This resulted in significant gaps in education, employment and economic development opportunities.

There were two landmarks in the evolution of the Arab community's relationship with the state. In 1967, the Six-Day War resulted in a re-connection with the Palestinian community in Gaza and the West Bank and greater contact with the Arab world-at-large. This increased Palestinian national awareness in the Arab Israeli community. The 1993 Oslo Accords led to high expectations for the fulfillment of Palestinian national rights with the hoped for establishment of a Palestinian state. This led Arab Israeli citizens to examine their status as equal citizens. This new generation began to more critically explore their socio-economic status, political integration, and civil rights; they were frustrated by the gaps between their aspirations and the reality.

Socio-economically, the Arab community lags with 57 percent living below the poverty level compared with 20 percent of the Jewish population. Although employment discrimination is illegal, it does exist, and many highly educated Arab citizens have trouble finding work. While Arab citizens have full voting rights and hold 13 seats (11 percent) in the Knesset (Parliament), they have little say in making policy at the highest levels because Arab parties are never included in government coalitions. During the post-Oslo period, the disparate minorities — Druze, Bedouin, and Arab (Christians and Muslims) — began to see themselves as a consolidated minority with collective rights. They also struggled with their identity as Israeli citizens who were excluded from Israel's national Jewish identity.

The situation today

The second Intifada in 2000 included Israeli Arabs and was an expression of Palestinian and Islamic sentiment and frustration with the status quo. Future vision documents by prominent Arab leaders portrayed Israel's future as a bi-national state. These two actions created fear, anxiety and mistrust in the Jewish population, which responded to these internal threats in disparate ways. First, there has been a radicalization of views toward the Arab minority. A recent poll by the Israel Democracy Institute indicated that 64 percent of Jewish Israelis feel that Arabs constitute a threat due to their high birthrate, and 53 percent believe the government should encourage Arab emigration. This radicalization has led to the rise of the Israel Beiteinu (Israel is our Homeland) party, which advocates requiring a loyalty oath of all citizens and the relatively mild response to a recent rabbinical banning Jews from renting apartments to Arabs.

The good news is that a large segment of the Jewish population has begun to acknowledge that the problem of Israel's minorities cannot be solved by dismissing or ignoring them. There is increased empathy with the Arab minority, a greater awareness of their grievances and more involvement in taking action to provide for full equal rights and integration. On a governmental level, the Or Commission documented inequalities in the Arab sector and recommended concrete actions, including the suggestion to create an Arab Ministry for Economic Development.

The events of 2000 also led to a discovery of the issue by North American Jewry. Jewish Federations and other Jewish organizations became more involved in developing and funding projects to promote Jewish/Arab coexistence and to foster economic development in the Arab community. The Ann Arbor Jewish community, through the Jewish Federation, began funding two such projects — vocational training for Druze women and a Jewish-Arab after school program for disadvantaged youth in Jaffa — in 2004. Since 2004, the Jewish Federation has allocated $166,000 for such programs, including Hand-in-Hand schools (Jewish-Arab bilingual education), Ramla Mediation Center (providing mediation support and training for Jewish and Arab traditional communities), and Net@, a program that brings Jewish and Arab teens together to learn practical computer skills (participants receive Cisco training and certification) as well as community building and leadership training.

Rekhess emphasized that although there is much to do to improve the situation, there are positive developments. He pointed out that the judicial panel that convicted former Israeli President Moshe Katsav was presided over by George Karra, an Israeli Arab from Jaffa. Due to increased awareness and training of Human Resource managers, there has been a significant improvement in hiring practices in the hi-tech industry. There are many existing programs to promote socio-economic equality; if just 1/16 were implemented successfully, the atmosphere would be immeasurably better and healthier.

Rekhess ended by emphasizing why the Jewish communities in Israel and North America work more strenuously toward improving the status of Israel's Arab minority:

- Israel is constitutionally committed to equality, and this commitment has been endorsed by the Jewish Agency and all Israel's governments.
- Israel must be preserved as a democratic state. A democracy is judged by how it treats its minorities.
- There is a moral Jewish imperative to protect the stranger in our midst.
- The Arab community is central to Israel's economic prospects; Israel loses by not fully utilizing Arabs in the workforce.
- It is essential to help Israel maintain its inner strength and cohesiveness. An increase in economic distress and increase in national (Palestinian) awareness works against an Israeli national cohesion.
- There is a price to be paid if the issue is ignored. Full integration into the community may stop the trend of Islamic radicalization that has begun in the Arab community.

Jewish-Arab economic cooperation

While Rekhess's talk aimed to build awareness of the issues facing the Arab community in Israel, Kittani focused on practical efforts made CJAED to support and promote economic development in the Israeli-Arab sector. Kittani was in Ann Arbor to brief the Michigan Israel Business Bridge.

With offices in Karmiel and Herzelia Pituach, the Center emphasizes empowering women and helping them make an impact in the business community. Only 21 percent of Arab women are in the work force compared to 57 percent of Jewish women. The goal of the Center is to increase this number to 45 percent. This is a heady goal as barriers to entry to the work force come as much from the traditional nature of their community as from external barriers. CJAED started by helping women succeed in more "women-related" businesses such as hairdressing, crafts, catering, etc. However, in the past four years, there has been an increased focus on hi-tech and the professions. In the last eight years, there have been 3,000 new women-owned businesses generating 5,000 new jobs. At the beginning, women required financial support from CJAED, but changing attitudes regarding Arab women in the work force has changed. Now, the vast majority of them receive financial and social support from their families.

In addition to a loan fund, CJAED provides an Arab women business club for networking, Internet marketing support, and consultation services. Once success is a company founded by Bedouin women in which cosmetics are manufactured using traditional herbs. Initially, their husbands would accompany them to meetings with CJAED consultants and financial institutions. Now, they operate independently and successfully.

A second major goal of the organization is to encourage cooperation and partnership between Arab and Jewish businesses. They have negotiated with local authorities to develop joint industrial and employment zones with shared management, and support joint ventures within those zones. In the hi-tech arena, there are training programs for human resource managers to help them understand the benefits of diversity in the work force. Over 3000 Arab engineers have jobs in the hi-tech industry, and many are seeking entrepreneurial opportunities.

"The Jewish Federation is pleased to have been able to offer such interesting and informative programs," said David Shtulman, Federation executive director. "We are proud of our contributions to programs that foster cooperation and understanding between Jewish and Arab Israelis and that improve economic conditions in the Arab sector." ■

For more information about the Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues, visit www.iataskforce.org. To learn more about CJAED, visit www.cjaed.org.il. Visit www.jewishannarbor.org or become a Jewish Federation Facebook fan to learn more about allocations and programs.

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Goran Bregovic and His Wedding and Funeral Orchestra

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Cloud Gate Dance Theatre

Schola Cantorum of Venezuela

Samuel Beckett's *Endgame* and *Watt*
Gate Theatre of Dublin

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Jeannette Sorrell music director
Philippe Jaroussky countertenor

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Bernard Labadie conductor
Maurice Steger recorder

From the Canyons to the Stars
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Sabine Meyer and the Trio di Clarone

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Charles Lloyd saxophones and flute
Jason Moran piano
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Jewish Family Services launches "May I Help?" drive

Jennifer Arapoff, special to the WJN

Citing a sharp increase in demand and a diminished stock of supplies, Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County (JFS) is doubling up its efforts to supply clients with a variety of home and personal items, especially small kitchen accessories, apartment furniture, paper goods, and toiletries. In order to fill the gap, JFS is launching an aggressive collection drive throughout the month of May. The drive is aptly called, "May I help?"

JFS provides social services to the entire Washtenaw County area, including Older Adult, Resettlement, Employment and Career, Crisis Management and Therapy, Immigration and Legal, Transportation and Youth and Family programs.

"Whether they're coming from another country with nothing but the shirt on their back, or they're a local resident who needs a little extra help getting by due to the economic crisis, JFS aims to help each client with a thorough intake process, goal setting, and actions to solve immediate crisis while creating long-term stability and self-sufficiency," says Morgan Deleonard, JFS crisis management intake specialist.

PHOTO BY JENNIFER RATLIFF-MOSS

(L to R): Mira Sussman, JFS director of resettlement; Kate, Lauren and Nani, Emerson students who donated items

"Our clients do come from all walks of life," agrees Mira Sussman, JFS director of resettlement. "Regardless of their circumstances, we take a comprehensive, wrap-around approach to serving them. When it comes to basic necessities, we never want to have to say no. We're looking to the entire greater Ann Arbor community to help us restock our shelves and be able to provide these simple, yet incredibly important, necessities so that our clients can focus on some of their bigger issues."

As a launching off point, students from Emerson School recently put together laundry baskets filled with supplies (toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, paper towels, facial tissues, dish soap, laundry detergent, pens and paper) to donate to JFS, as a bat mitzvah project for Kate Moss, a 13-year-old JFS volunteer who serves as an ESL/homework tutor with the child of a JFS resettlement client.

Specifically, the JFS "May I Help?" drive is requesting:

Kitchen items
- Small kitchen appliances (toasters, coffee makers, small microwaves)
- Flatware
- Glasses, plates, pots and pans
- Assorted kitchen accessories (peelers, strainers, etc.)

Paper goods and toiletries
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Feminine hygiene products
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Cleaning supplies (Lysol, dish soap, etc.)
- Gift cards to area stores that sell these items

Apartment furniture
- Dining room tables and chairs (smal enough for an apartment)
- Couches
- Lamps
- Small dressers
- Beds

JFS also accepts vehicle donations, for its transportation services as well as clients in need. In order to handle additional furniture donations, JFS is currently seeking a larger cargo vehicle.

Smaller household, paper and personal hygiene items can be dropped off at JFS, 2245 South State Street, or brought to the JFS booth at the Celebrate Israel event on May 22 at the JCC. For more information, see www.jfsannarbor.org. ■

Communal conversations: JCLP in Ann Arbor and Detroit

Liz Kohn, special to the WJN

Life within the University of Michigan School of Social Work's Jewish Communal Leadership Program (JCLP) continues to be action-packed. In March, JCLP, with the support of the Covenant Foundation, convened a compelling series of communal conversations which brought an impressive array of national Jewish leaders in from the coasts to meet with JCLP students in their seminar and to engage the broader community on some of the critical issues defining today's American Jewish world. The month culminated with a whirlwind tour of historically Jewish areas in and around downtown Detroit and a visit to the Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue.

JCLP group with Jerry Cook and Jon Koller at Spaulding St. in Corktown

JCLP Communal Conversation with Nigel Savage

Mik Moore, chief strategy officer of the Jewish Funds for Justice (NY), began the Conversations series with "Talking the Talk, Walking the Walk: Jews, Race, and the Great Schlep." He openly and passionately discussed the YouTube extravaganza "The Great Schlep," featuring comedian Sara Silverman, which led to an exploration of race and generational divides.

Two weeks later, Rabbi Sharon Brous, of Congregation IKAR in Los Angeles, used examples from Jewish texts to define the quality of "holy chutzpah" to discuss "Innovation, Agitation, and Transformation in Jewish Life." Brous cited Hannah, Beruriah, and Mordecai to suggest that sometimes radical change can be the best way to preserve tradition and create vibrant Jewish communities that can respond in compelling ways to the challenges of our time.

In the final JCLP seminar of the series, Nigel Savage, executive director of Hazon (NY). discussed the critical challenges and opportunities being addressed by Hazon's focus on sustainability and the new Jewish food movement. He also shared insights into the creation and organizational evolution of Hazon, the largest Jewish environmental organization in the U.S., observing that it is an "immense privilege to be a Jewish leader." Co-sponsored by the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, Savage's talk "The New Jewish Food Movement and the Art of Bicycle Maintenance," highlighted stories of individual and collective transformation that have emerged in connection with Hazon's work. He also engaged the audience in a text study that illustrated how millennia-old Jewish teachings could connect individuals and communities today with the nuances and complexities of sustainability and responsibility for the natural world.

JCLP group with Jerry Cook and business manager at Clinton St. Church

On Friday, April 1, Gerald Cook, of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan, took the six JCLPers and director Dr. Karla Goldman on an eye-opening tour of the city of Detroit. The tour ended with conversation and Shabbat services at the Downtown Synagogue, which had just celebrated its ninetieth anniversary the previous weekend.

The tour included a drive around Detroit's lower east side and nearby west side; a stop at the Heidelberg Project's beautifully painted abandoned homes and creative public art; lunch at the Eastern Market's Russell Street Deli; a meet-and-greet at the Jewish Vocational Services downtown location; and a tour of the Clinton Street Greater Bethlehem Temple Church on West Chicago Blvd., which occupies the former home of Congregation Shaarey Zedek; a drive through the Boston Edison and Palmer Woods neighborhoods; and a visit to the non-profit Friends of Spaulding Court, whose mission is "to promote the strength and diversity of the Corktown community."

The day culminated with engaged conversation with board and synagogue members of the Downtown Synagogue who shared how they felt that their work, homes, and growing community were connecting them with the city of Detroit and their hopes for what the Jewish community's evolving role in the city might become. Many of the JCLP group then remained for Shabbat services. Watching their social work and Judaic studies and Jewish commitment play out over the course of their day in Detroit was highly rewarding for the U-M contingent, and they look forward to continuing all these conversations within the Ann Arbor community and beyond. ■

JPros co-chairs attend national conference; locallly, group meets for webinar

Mira Sussman, special to the WJN

On March 6–7, Mira Sussman and Robin Axelrod, co-chairs of Jewish Professionals of Greater Ann Arbor (JPros), joined 40 other volunteer group leaders from JPros chapters in cities around the country. They met in St. Louis, Missouri, to share stories and ideas, network with each other, and strategize how best to meet the needs of our local Jewish professionals and the organizations they represent.

The conference was organized by Jewish Communal Association of North America, which supports Jewish professionals nationwide through resources, webinars, conferences and networking. Local group leaders shared ideas on what professional development topics were popular with their members, how to encourage Jewish professionals to seek out professional development opportunities locally, and how to engage the wider community in supporting their Jewish professionals.

Nationally acclaimed coach and trainer, Deborah Grayson-Riegel, addressed the group on the topic of "Strategic Storytelling," teaching a model of how to engage stakeholders of all kinds in a dialogue as a way of building buy-in.

"It is so invigorating to meet with fellow Jewish professionals," said Axelrod. "One of the most important take-aways for me was the opportunity to learn practical, cutting-edge tools for strengthening the professional ties we have right here in Ann Arbor."

In addition to the local chapters' conference, the following day the local leaders joined hundreds of Jewish professionals from St. Louis and around the country for a day long professional development conference. Rabbi Brad Hershfield from CLAL was the keynote speaker.

Participants could select from workshops on topics as diverse as "Jewish Social Entrepreneurship" to "How to Balance Work/Life."

"The biggest takeaway for me was how to better communicate in the workplace, how to manage time, and find happiness through the lens of the Torah that I can apply to both my professional and private lives," said conference participant and Jewish Communal Leadership Program student Sarah Shwartzman. "I left feeling empowered as a member of the American Jewish Community."

Added Axelrod, "I'd love for Ann Arbor to host a future JPros conference—The rest of the Jewish communal world needs to see our small but mighty community!"

On April 13, JPros hosted a welcome lunch for new JCC executive director, Andrea Rosner-Najer. "One of the exciting aspects of being a Jewish Educator in Ann Arbor is having the opportunity to meet, study with and learn from other Jewish professionals in our community," says Terri Ginsburg, director of education at Temple Beth Emeth. "We want Andrea to know from the beginning that the Jewish professionals in Ann Arbor work cooperatively to enhance Jewish living in greater Ann Arbor. Making personal connections with other professionals is a great way to get to know our community." ■

If you would like more information on JPros, contact Mira Sussman at mira@jfsannarbor.org.

JPros participated in a JCSA webinar on "Appreciative Inquiry" with Deborah Grayson Riegel on March 29, 2011

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Getting our hands dirty… Hillel at EMU's Alternative Spring Break in Los Angeles

Ben Henig and Hillel at EMU staff, special to the WJN

During their week-long break at the end of February, eleven students from Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw Community College led by Hillel at EMU's Jewish Student Life Coordinator, Miriam Borenstein, traveled to Los Angeles to roll up their sleeves and provide much needed volunteer power and engage in *tzedek*, or Social Justice, work. The Hillel at EMU group, led by facilitators from Jewish Funds for Justice, worked with two L.A. non-profit agencies, L. A. Family Housing and Tree People. During the one work day at L. A. Family Housing, students learned about the many causes of homelessness and found a new appreciation for the hardships faced by the working poor. The rest of the week was spent with Tree People enhancing local city parks that were long overdue for a facelift by planting and mulching trees.

Through the physical work of feeding the homeless and mulching hundreds of trees, students acted on the principles of teamwork and community building, increasing their drive to take on problems that most people ignore. Tree People facilitator, Daniel Carmichael, explained that importing 11 unskilled laborers from Michigan was not the most effective way to mulch trees, rather the point was to use the experience to learn about the importance of contributing to one's community, building public spaces, and maintaining the quality of the environment; all key components in people's quality of life.

While volunteering with Tree People, Hillel at EMU students had the opportunity to work with a group of volunteers from a local Catholic high school. This provided a true leadership experience as the high school students were grouped with the college students. The interfaith exchange was a meaningful first for many of the high school students who had never interacted with Jews and several of the college students who had never before explained Judaism to non-Jews.

Students participated in daily learning and reflection sessions to explore Jewish values such as *tzedek* (social justice) and *Tikkun Olam* (Repairing the World), as well as other qualities like leadership, responsibility, accountability and more. Although students spent most of their time volunteering, there was time for a trip to Santa Monica, a night out in Hollywood, dinner with an EMU alum and Hillel at EMU supporter, and some hiking in Runyon Canyon.

Alternative Spring Break is a service-learning program that serves as an important bonding tool among students as well as a key engagement tool for Hillel at EMU to connect with students on a 24/7 basis. While Hillel at EMU subsidizes the trip, the rest of the costs must be raised through joint student and staff efforts. Businesses and Jewish organizations from all over southeast Michigan helped defray the cost of the trip through grants and sponsorships. Hillel at EMU also noted that several contributions came from individual community members. ■

Students, Staff and Tree People Volunteers taking a break. Danny Carmichael, Violetta Shuman, Nelson Grossman, Heather Hoberman, Beth Kent, Rachel Kaminsky, Lauren Cohn, Ben Henig, Hila Levin, Miriam Borenstein, Sarah Anders, Charlotte Smaith

Volunteering in the kitchen at LA Family Housing (l to r): Violetta Shuman, Lauren Cohn

EMU Student volunteering with Tree People in Los Angeles. (l to r) Sarah Anders, Ben Henig, Laura Menyuk, Heather Hoberman, and Danny Carmichael

Students Hila Levin and Rachel Kaminsky (l to r) mulching trees in LA

It was Oygasmic!

Miriam Borenstein, special to the WJN

Over 200 Jewish young adults spent Purim with "PIG" stamped on their hands and huge smiles on their faces. Hillel at EMU teamed up with the Blind Pig in downtown Ann Arbor for a rocked-out, over-the-top Purim celebration. The success of this Saturday evening Purim celebration was a truly remarkable mix of energized college students, fantastically creative drink specials from the Blind Pig's bartending staff, and amazing music from the band, "The Oygasms!" Drawing on a lifetime love of Klezmer music and determined for students to have a fantastic time dancing the night away, Miriam Borenstein, Hillel at EMU's Jewish Student Life Coordinator, approached musician Ezra Graziano about creating an original band for the event. With incredible enthusiasm Graziano responded, "When approached with an opportunity to create and perform "punk-klezmer" for Hillel at EMU, we couldn't refuse. Without hesitation, but with a punchline, The Oygasms were created." Graziano went on to say that, "Everything about that event was fantastic! The large crowd of costumes, Manischewitz drink specials, graggers, and hamantaschen meant that this event was going to be alive. People danced through the entire three-hour show—an enthusiastic welcome for The Oygasms. It was a pleasure to perform our fresh spin on klezmer music for everyone who attended the event."

The original compositions, "klesmerized" pop song covers, and Jewish themed drink specials were only the beginning. Hillel at EMU students spent over three days baking hamantschen before the event, and the result was both sweet and massive, with plenty of cookies for everyone who attended. Students also prepared information displays about the Story of Esther for the event, which also included a costume contest, followed by dance-off based elections of a Purim King and Queen, with prizes for winners and runners-up. Dressed as a Vampire, Clara Silver, Hillel at EMU's Executive Director, emceed both contests and believes that, "Jewish young adults loved the punk-klezmer created by The Oygasms because they can relate to the Jewish themes while dancing wildly to the punk rock sounds. It was the perfect combination of tradition and innovation!"

Hillel at EMU celebrated Purim at the Blind Pig in Ann Arbor

Amassing a crowd of well over two hundred, the audience that packed the club was comprised of students from Eastern Michigan University, University of Michigan, and Wayne State, as well as members of the Young Adult Division (YAD) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor community members, EMU staff and faculty, and other music lovers of the dancing and fun-loving variety.

Martin Shichtman, director of Jewish Studies at EMU, noted that, "The Oygasms, house-band for Hillel at EMU's Purim Party at the Blind Pig in Ann Arbor, offered brilliant musicianship as they tore through two extraordinary sets of electric klezmer, dance pop, and an eclectic mix of 1980s rock. Their stage show—terrific, no doubt, under any circumstances—was energized by a room filled with costumed students, as well as several non-costumed members of the EMU faculty, having the time of their lives. A really fabulous evening." Students remained late into the night, eventually closing the bar, and moving into the street to echo the songs of The Oygasms into the night. As EMU Sophomore Beth Kent so truthfully said, "It was epic!" ■

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JCC announces new director for youth, teen, and camp programs

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor has announced that Shoshana Jackson has been promoted to the position of Youth, Teen, and Camp Director at the JCC. She will be replacing the current director, Deborah Huerta, who will be returning to school this year. Jackson joined the JCC a year and a half ago as the assistant camp director for Camp Raanana, the JCC's outdoor summer day camp for grades K–8. During the 2010–2011 school year, she has also been serving as the JCC's afterschool programs coordinator and assisting with other JCC youth and teen programs. Prior to joining the JCC, Jackson's experiences included a wide range of Judaic and camping programs. She grew up in Ann Arbor and was involved in many of the city's Jewish communities during her youth, including Beth Israel Congregation, Temple Beth Emeth, Chabad House, and the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. She later attended college in Florida, receiving a liberal arts degree from Broward College.

Shoshana Jackson

Since returning to the Ann Arbor area several years ago, Jackson has been teaching religious school at Temple Beth Emeth and the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. She is in her third year as the head teacher for the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah and her sixth consecutive year teaching for Temple Beth Emeth. Her previous camping experience includes three summers at a residential Girl Scouts camp, where she served as a unit head counselor during her first year and the assistant director for her second and third summers. Jackson has also participated in a number of education and camping conferences, including the Conference on Alternatives in Jewish Education, American Camping Association conferences, and the Michigan Afterschool Council Conference. Jackson's past experiences in Jewish education and camping, close bonds with JCC families, and familiarity with the JCC's youth programs make her ideally suited for the position of Youth, Teen, and Camp Director. She will be transitioning into her new role during the spring and summer and will assume full-time duties as the Youth, Teen, and Camp Director in the fall.

In order to ensure the smooth operation of Camp Raanana during the transition between incoming Camp Director Shoshana Jackson and outgoing Camp Director Deborah Huerta, the JCC has hired Shannon Link as Interim Camp Director for this summer to oversee daily operations. Link comes to the JCC with extensive experience in childcare and education, excellent supervisory and planning skills, and strong familiarity with JCC families and programming thanks to her six years as a JCC Early Childhood Center teacher. She holds two bachelor's degrees, one from the University of Michigan and one from Eastern Michigan University, as well as a teaching certificate and a master's degree in elementary education through the U-M's ELMAC program. Link worked in the JCC Early Childhood Center as a lead teacher for 6 years before returning to school to pursue her master's degree. While earning her teaching certificate and master's, she has interned or taught at Northside Elementary, Ann Arbor Open, High Point School, Tappan Middle School, and Thurston Elementary. Since completing her master's degree in December, Link has been serving as the childcare supervisor for the before and after school programs at Byrant Elementary. She plans to begin working as a 1st or 2nd grade teacher this fall. Link and her husband live in Ann Arbor with their two children.

Shannon Link

Families are encouraged to contact Deborah Huerta, Shoshana Jackson, or Shannon Link with questions or comments at campdirector@jccfed.org or 971-0990. . ■

Camp Raanana to hold "Meet the Staf " event

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

Camp Raanana, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's outdoor summer day camp for children entering grades K–8, will host a free Meet the Staff Bowling Extravaganza on Sunday, May 15, from 3–5 p.m. The Camp Raanana counselors and staff invite all registered and prospective campers to join in an afternoon of fun and bowling at Colonial Lanes Bowling Alley, located at 1950 South Industrial Highway. There will be free bowling and plenty of snacks for all to enjoy, plus opportunities to meet the camp staff, learn more about Camp Raanana, and register for camp.

Located on a beautiful private beachfront at Independence Lake Park, Camp Raanana offers a place for campers to explore new interests, gain self-confidence, build Jewish identity, and have fun outside. The camp offers nine one-week sessions each summer and provides swim lessons, arts and crafts, music, Judaics, nature exploration, sports, free swim, Shabbat celebrations, and weekly special events or all-camp field trips.

This year's all-camp field trips will include Splash Universe, Northfork Farms, the Detroit Science Center, the Imagination Station, Howell Nature Center, the Toledo Zoo, Rolling Hills Water Park, Romulus Athletic Center, and Greenfield Village. Camp Raanana will also be hosting the popular Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan for a visit to camp and an evening performance at the JCC on July 13. The annual Shabbat at the Lake celebration will be held the evening of August 5 and will feature performances by all the camper groups.

At Camp Raanana, campers entering grades K–2 enjoy the benefits of experienced and nurturing counselors and enriching activity sessions, including Red Cross swim lessons three times a week. Campers entering grades 3–5 participate in Camp Raanana's swim lessons and other activity offerings, and also choose an enriching specialty each week. This year's specialties options include Spy School, Boating, Digital Photography, Martial Arts, Drama, Clay Creations, World of Sports, Edible Art, Dance, Camp Skills, and Magic. Campers entering grades 6–8 participate in Camp Raanana's Pioneer Adventure Program, featuring exciting field trips and fun mitzvah projects each week.

This year's camp season will run from June 20 to August 19; additional programs are also available from August 22–26. The registration deadline for Camp Raanana is June 1, but some sessions may fill up before that date so families are encouraged to register in advance to reserve their space. For brochures, registration forms, or more information, visit www.CampRaanana.com or contact camp director Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990. ■

JCC youth programs

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

Red Cross babysitting class

The JCC will host a two-day American Red Cross Babysitting Class on Tuesday, May 24, and Thursday, May 26, from 4–7 p.m. Pizza dinners will be served both days. The class will teach child safety, first aid, baby care, and developmentally appropriate play. Upon completion, students will receive a card showing that they are certified by the American Red Cross.

The class is open to students ages 11–17; students must have turned eleven by the start of the class or within two weeks to receive certification. Students who are ten years old are welcome to participate but will not receive certification. The cost is $80 for JCC members and $100 for non-members. Registration and payment are due by May 10; late registrations will be accepted if space is available.

May-June enrichment classes

The JCC is planning an exciting schedule of afterschool classes for the May-June session. Youth Enrichment classes for elementary students will run for six weeks, beginning Monday, May 2, and continuing through the week of June 6. These fun and stimulating afternoon classes run from 4:20–5:20 p.m. and are open to both JCC members and non-members in grades K-5. Snack and supervision in the JCC's afterschool programs before each class are included for all class participants.

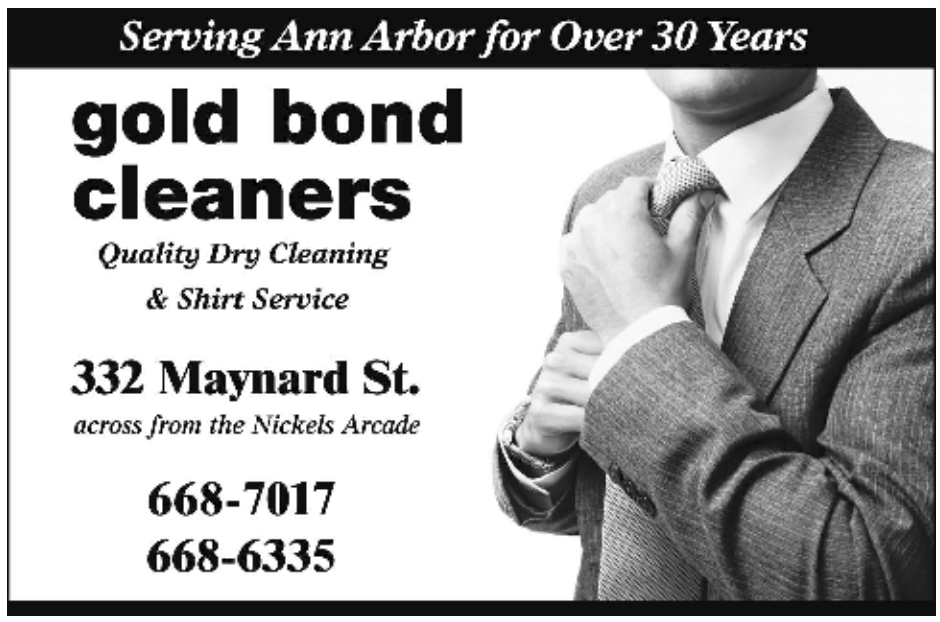
The enrichment schedule is still being finalized, but will likely include several returning favorites such as Fit Kids, Gym Sports, Basketball with Benny, Kids Yoga, and Lego Physics. In addition to the afterschool enrichment classes at the JCC, another session of the popular Swim with Kim class will be offered on Tuesday evenings from 5:30–6:30 p.m. at High Point School, beginning May 10. The May-June Swim with Kim class will be open to students in grades K-5, as well as graduating preschool students with instructor permission.

Kids' Night Out event

Every other month, the JCC offers a Kids' Night Out event featuring games, crafts, dinner, and a movie or other special activities. The next Kids' Night Out is tentatively scheduled to be held on Saturday, May 7, from 6:30–10 p.m. at the JCC. The evening will feature a viewing of the movie *Tangled*, a delightful animated movie that follows the adventures of Rapunzel, a magically long-haired princess who has spent her entire life in a tower.

Kids' Night Out events are open to JCC members and non-members in grades K–5. Since this is the last Kids' Night Out of the year, the event is also open to graduating preschool students. The cost for JCC members is $20 (additional siblings: $18). The cost for non-members is $25 (additional siblings: $23). Registrations and payment will be due by Thursday, May 5 ■.

For registration forms or more information about JCC youth programs, visit www.jccannarbor.org or contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990.



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Habonim Dror to end school year with celebration of Jewish history

Matan Naamani, special to the WJN

Ken Pardes is the Ann Arbor area's chapter of the national Zionist youth movement, Habonim Dror North America (HDNA). Ken Pardes has run many successful *peulot* (activities) throughout this school, year covering such topics as Yitzhak Rabin, environmentalism, Chanukah, Tu B'shvat, and the Winter Olympics. Most recently the members of Ken Pardes all went iceskating together in costume for Purim. A Purim play and *mishloach manot*, were part of the activity.

May will be Ken Pardes's last month of activities this school year. The first of these activities will be on Sunday, May 1. During this peulah, attendees will learn about and celebrate the role of Jewish leaders in labor organizing and labor rights. The tzevet (staff) is very excited to share this new and unique experience with everyone in "the ken." The last event will be later in May and will be a community BBQ for children and their families. All Ken Pardes peulot are open to any children (first grade to eleventh grade) who would like to attend.

Ken Pardes gets in costume to go ice skating for Purim

Ken Pardes is affiliated with the summer camp, Camp Tavor, the Habonim Dror summer camp located near Kalamazoo, Michigan. During the summer, kids from third to eleventh grade go to Tavor for a fun, unique, and welcoming community based on Jewish values, progressive Zionism, and youth leadership. Ken Pardes is run by *madrichim* (counselors) of which many are alumni of the Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor and religious schools and programs at Beth Israel Congregation, Temple Beth Emeth, and the Reconstructionist Havurah. For families who are considering Camp Tavor, Ken Pardes is a great place to meet campers, counselors, and families from Tavor and to get a taste of the Tavor community. For families who already have kids at Tavor, Ken Pardes is a great place to continue their involvement with Habonim Dror and Tavor.

For questions or more information on Ken Pardes and/or Camp Tavor, or to join the email list, contact Matan Naamani at 904-6578 or ken.annarbor@gmail.com, or visit www.camptavor.com. ■

Farmer, rabbi and maple syrup maker melds Torah and environmentalism

By Sue Fishkoff

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA)—It's easy to spot Rabbi Shmuel Simenowitz at a Jewish food conference, an environmentalist gathering or any of the other progressive-minded confabs he frequents.

Just look for the Chasid in the room.

Simenowitz is an anomaly: a haredi Orthodox Jew, black hat and all, who is equally at home —and equally uneasy —in a roomful of dreadlocked 20-something eco-hipsters as at a Chasidic celebration. He takes flak from the Orthodox for "wasting time" with the foodies and is chided by progressive activists for his commitment to ritual observance.

Rabbi Shmuel Simenowitz outside his Readsboro, Vt. sugarhouse, a replica of an 18th-century synagogue

"I see myself as a post-denominational Torah Jew with Chasidic sensibilities," he tells JTA, with more than a trace of self-mockery. "I'm an equal-opportunity offender."

More seriously, he says, not only is there no contradiction between living a Torah-true life and reducing one's carbon footprint, the two are intertwined.

"I grow my own food, I grow organically, I am a good steward of the earth," he says. "That's Torah. I'm a Torah Jew, and my world values are seamlessly integrated into that."

Simenowitz, 53, is part of a small but growing group of strcitly Orthodox Jews who are getting back to the land —farming organically, raising animals, living lightly on the earth and doing it in the name of Torah.

Fifteen years ago he walked away from a successful career as an entertainment and intellectual property lawyer and moved from the New York suburb of Long Island to an organic farm in Vermont with his wife, Rivki, and two young children. They were becoming newly observant, and thought the big house and fancy cars wouldn't help them "grow spiritually" or raise their children with the values they were beginning to hold dear.

The couple planted vegetables, set up a chicken coop and began making maple syrup from the hundreds of maple trees in their 14-acre sugar bush, calling their project Sweet Whisper Farm. Simenowitz used draft horses to plow the fields and carry the maple sap from the trees to his sugar shack, which is modeled on an 18th-century Polish wooden synagogue—one of hundreds destroyed by pogroms, Nazis and years of Communist rule.

Jewish student groups, observant and non-observant, would visit from the big city, and Simenowitz would introduce them to farm work while imparting a little Torah wisdom.

"When I get the yeshiva guys up here, they know their Torah but they need to get their hands in the dirt," he says. "And when I get the tree-hugging crowd, they say, 'Wow, what a beautiful sunset,' and I say, 'That's great, but we need to do some learning.' We're like spiritual dietitians, giving everybody what they're missing, trying to bridge that gap."

Two years ago Simenowitz and his family moved to Baltimore, and they now live in an Orthodox neighborhood of families interested in getting back to the land. One neighbor keeps bees. Another spins her own wool. A third has an organic farm —just the kind of integration for which he and Rivki had been looking.

But Simenowitz still travels to Vermont each spring to work his sugar bush.

About a decade ago, after a disastrous maple harvest season, the sap finally started running on the eve of Passover, right before the first seder, and neighbors poured in from all over to help collect it as fast as they could. But as sundown approached, Simenowitz put down his bucket and said work had to stop. By the time he was permitted by Jewish law to continue working, all the sap had spoiled in the unseasonably hot sun —hundreds of gallons, nearly his entire crop.

The story was featured in Oprah Winfrey's O magazine, and "Someone passed a comment, saying, 'What kind of God would let that happen when you're out there doing his thing?' " Simenowitz recalls. "And I said, 'Bottom line, you don't get hurt doing mitzvahs.' "

After the story was published, people started calling from all over to adopt a tree in Simenowitz's grove; his business was saved.

Simenowitz produces about 100 gallons of maple syrup in a good year, boiled down from 4,000 gallons of raw sap, which is collected from buckets he hangs from his tapped trees. He taps the trees in a pattern, he explains —a little higher or lower each year so as not to damage the tree. The sap is pumped into an evaporator inside the sugar shack, where the water is boiled off to leave behind the syrup, which is about 60 percent sugar.

The operation is kosher certified. There are two major kosher concerns with "pure maple syrup." First, an observant Jew is required to turn on the evaporator because only an observant Jew is allowed to "light the fire" that cooks a kosher food item. Second, while the sap is boiling, farmers drip animal fat into the mixture to keep it from foaming over the top of its container.

"Traditionally they'd take a piece of pork fat, suspend it from a string and the foam would rise, touch it and go down," says Simenowitz, who instead uses olive oil, pouring in a drop or two at a time.

Simenowitz, who sells all his maple syrup himself either in person or by mail order, says he sells out every year.

He makes his living as a traveling scholar-in-residence, lecturing about farming in Orthodox venues and teaching Torah to Jewish environmentalists and foodies through Ya'aleh v'Yavo, the Jewish environmentalist project he directs. He also picks up the occasional legal case, to keep the bills paid, and has been tapped by the city of Baltimore to do a comprehensive energy audit on a new Orthodox-friendly commercial building, including designing some of its energy-efficient infrastructure.

Rabbi/Farmer Simenowitz talks about environmental sustainability

Simenowitz doesn't attend Jewish food conferences anymore, saying he is "tired of being the poster child for the Orthodox." Jewish environmentalists and eco-foodies need to ground their work in Torah, he says, if they want the Orthodox world to take them seriously.

"The Orthodox are late to the parade," he acknowledges, but that's understandable.

"The environmental agenda is often grafted onto a liberal social justice agenda that the Orthodox community can't accept," he says. "Part of my program is to fill that breach."

Simenowitz works closely with Kayam Farm, an organic farm and Jewish educational initiative at the Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center just outside Baltimore. When he first visited several years ago, he learned that Kayam was based on his farm in Vermont, which the general manager's daughter had visited as part of a group from the 92nd Street Y in New York City.

"That was really validating," he says, "to see the seeds I planted take root." ■

A score for the Early Childhood Center Frog Room

Julie Bass and Tonya Backstrom, special to the WJN

Anyone walking by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Early Childhood Center's Frog classroom may have noticed the children are obsessed with sports. Children discuss daily basketball and football scores, new recruits for teams and show their support by singing fight songs. The Frog Room teachers have developed a center in the room for sport related, large motor activities so that children can practice their sports skills. Since sports

interests are so high, the teachers decided to select an organization called Score 4 Kids for their *tzedekah* project. Score 4 Kids is an organization based out of metro Detroit that takes new and gently used sports equipment and gives it to children, families, teams and summer camps in need of the equipment.

Teachers "pitched" the idea to the children and they could feel the excitement in the air. Children painted *tzedekah* boxes to take home and save their money. At school, the teachers took full advantage of the projects' interest and introduced several money related activities. Children earned paper coins saved in a giant piggy bank on a bulletin board in the classroom. Unexpected tasks such as cleaning up quicker than normal and doing unexpected mitzvahs for other children were awarded merit with a coin in their piggybank. Once the bank was full of pennies the children role-played being a customer going to the bank to exchange pennies for other coins. Preschool children caught on quickly learning the value of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters when the banker would only make "fair trades."

As the Meijer shopping day approached, the children returned their *tzedakah* boxes back to school. The children shared how they "found money" and put it in their bank, others collected money with their families as part of their Shabbat experience. Nicky Riebschleger was excited to share: "I got some money from my cousins, too." They quickly realized that they had lots of quarters, nickels, dimes and pennies but were not sure if Meijer took just coins. The children decided to sort the coins and put them in rolls for the bank. They problem-solved on how to make collections and also put them in the paper rolls. After adding up the *tzedakah* box collections from home, they had a total of $263 from rog family contributions!

During a small group activity one of the children seemed disappointed when they found out that the pennies he and his friend had just rolled up would not be enough to buy a basketball. The frustrated preschooler, Oliver Carmack, put his hands on his hips and announced: "We need to get a job!" He convinced his other group mates that grown-ups go to work and get money for doing work. The children were introduced to the idea of creating a resume so that others would know what kind of work they could do. The resume was made and hung in the hallway looking for a cleaning, sweeping, cooking, babysitting, and necklace-making job at prices the children determined. Signs were made by the children and distributed to teachers with the big brown-eyed plea of: "Please hire us, we need more money for us to buy sports stuff for children who don't have any." Several teachers loved the idea of having the preschoolers help and hired them on the spot! The children washed and sanitized the Lamb Room toys, organized the boot rack in the Giraffe Room, swept the gym floor for Kim, the gym teacher, and cleaned the loft and chairs in the Duck Room all for donations to their *tzedekah* project. Another second idea one child suggested was to sell items they could make. Children decided people would buy juice boxes, pretzels, muffins, pizzas, and jellybeans. So the Frogs opened a bake sale of sorts and got more donations that way. Between the bake sale and jobs frog children earned another $87 towards for their project.

The field trip to Meijer took place on Wednesday, March 30. The shopping list was created by the kids, as they hoped to find footballs, soccer balls, football pads, jerseys and many other things needed to play sports. The children were very excited to ride the city bus and ride in the carts at Meijer. Upon entering the store, the children were chanting their intended purchases and a parent chaperone commented, "The kids are crazy today, they like this trip!" Arriving in the sports equipment aisle, the children were advised that they could find one moderately priced (around $15–$20) item or several less expensive items. Children were very surprised when some items like baseball gloves and helmets were too expensive to purchase. Many children chose one soccer ball or one basketball, but

others sought out items that they could buy more of, like softballs and baseballs. In the end, purchased items included two soccer balls, four basketballs, two footballs, eight baseballs, three softballs, two baseball gloves, a baseball bat, a volleyball and some practice cones. The children were excited to hear that they had even more money left after their

field trip and gave advice to their teachers on things to buy that they should buy elsewhere. Teachers Julie and Tonya made a few more purchases of gently used hockey equipment and soccer gear at Play It Again Sports. After purchasing everything on their lists, they were able to donate $120 in cash to Score 4 Kids for more size-specific sports equipment.

To finish up the *tzedakah* project Karen Schultz, the executive director of Score 4 Kids, came to visit the children. She spoke about the organization, and the children had a chance to present her with their contributions. Karen brought along her sons and explained that Score 4 Kids was their idea and their goal was to help kids who wanted to play sports but did not have the equipment. Each Frog presented an item that they picked out at Meijer to Karen, including Tyler Goldstein's personal contribution of a hockey helmet, stick, skates and pads. Ishai Yitzchaki explained to Karen: "We went to Meijer and bought kids' stuff so they could wear it when they played hockey." Karen was very pleased and asked the children, "Do you know how many kids will be helped with all this stuff? I am so happy to share this with them for you." The children were very excited to share with Karen and her sons their sports enthusiasm and ended the visit with a proud round of "Hail to the Victors."

After Karen left, children were asked about the *tzedakah* project. Preschooler Netanel Barsky commented, "I am feeling good because we bought all this stuff. And now the kids will have something to use." After that Mahala Nguyen commented, "But I feel sad about it." When asked why, she responded, "It's all gone now, we won't have anyone else to do mitzvahs for." The frog children really connected with the project and saw how their hard work paid off. The class raised nearly $350 for Score 4 Kids. Those wishing to help this organization further, can visit the Score 4 Kids website (score4kidsmi.com).

For more information about the JCCís Early Childhood Center, contact Noreen DeYoung at noreendeyoung@jccfed.org or 971-0990. ■

Camp Raanana

June 20 - August 19

The JCC's Outdoor Day Camp for Children Entering Grades K–8

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Keeping kashrut

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, special to the WJN

One popular question that I am often asked in my "Ask the Rabbi" column is asked mostly by people who identify themselves as non-Jews. "Where does the tradition of not mixing milk and meat come from?" Many know that the dietary laws prevent such mixture, but are unable to find the source for the tradition in the Torah.

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin

The tradition of separating dairy and meat products comes from an interpretation of the Torah's law that "one should not boil a kid in its mother's milk". This law appears in the Torah in different contexts; and while it appears to be definitive and clear, we really don't know what this phrase was intended to mean. Was it to meant to be taken literally, referring to a practice which would be considered cruel and insensitive to a mother animal? Was it a euphemism for some kind of behavior that had nothing to do with animals at all? Or, does the intended meaning fall somewhere in the range between literal and metaphorical interpretations?

We probably will never know for sure, but we know for certainty what the phrase means in traditional Judaism. While we are free to interpret the Torah narratives as we see fit, and while the Talmud is full of examples where there is a disagreement about how certain legal statements in the Torah are to be observed pragmatically, there are some traditions which are so universally observed that writing a different midrash, and interpreting a phrase differently, would place one outside of the normative community. The interpretation of "not boiling a kid in its mother's milk" is one such example. Whatever it might have meant at one time, today it means separating milk and meat.

There are some questions about the specifics of this separation: How long must one wait between eating meat and dairy? How should one use dairy and meat utensils for food which is pareve (neither dairy nor meat)? Is there any problem using non-dairy or non-meat products which look like and taste like their dairy or meat counterparts? Individuals should make these decisions in consultation with their rabbi. But there is no denying that to observe kashrut today means separating milk and meat regardless of how distant that interpretation might be from the intended meaning of the Torah.

Observing kashrut is a challenge for many, and there are some for whom it is sufficient to follow the aspects of kashrut which are specifically and clearly taught in the Torah: refraining from eating certain animals, fish and birds; not eating the blood of an animal; etc. These individuals might question the authority the ancient rabbis have on us today and seek to make a distinction made between "God's word" and rabbinic interpretation. I understand the desire to make such a distinction and, frankly, I'm happy when anyone decides to observe any aspect of kashrut.

But I believe that, while we should continue to debate specifics of Jewish law and seek to make our observances more appropriate for this day and age, we should also realize that some interpretations of laws in the Torah are so well established that it is impossible to make a distinction between the Torah source the way our tradition has taught us to read the verse. Regardless of what this verse might have meant, we know what it has meant to Jews for millennia; and that is critical to the way we observe our faith. ■

The counting of the omer

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

Starting Tuesday night, April 19, in the evening services, we began the counting of the Omer. This is a daily counting for seven weeks (49 days) between Passover and the following holiday of Shavuot.

First some historical background is in order. How did this observance begin? According to one commentator, when the Jewish people were leaving Egypt, Moses told them that the purpose of the redemption was in order to receive the Torah. The people asked when this would be and Moses answered that it will be in seven weeks, we have to count forty-nine days. So they were very excited about it and began counting down to the day that they would receive the Torah.

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein

The Torah itself tells us about the counting in another way. As Pesach is in the springtime, there are certain grains, especially in Israel, that are already ripe. The first of the grains to ripen is barley. The next grain to ripen is wheat, which ripens about seven weeks later at the time of Shavuot. The Torah says that one should not eat from the new crops until a portion is taken and brought as a sacrifice. That's called *Chodosh* – the new crop. So, on the second night of Pesach (in Israel it is already considered the intermediate days) the people would go out at night to the fields and they would start cutting the new crop of barley. They would meticulously select the very best of the crop and make it into flour in order to offer it as a morning sacrifice on the altar. After the sacrifice was performed, everyone was allowed to go into the fields and take whatever they needed to benefit from and otherwise use the new crop. The Torah then says that one should count forty-nine days from the bringing of this offering. Hence the term Sefirah, meaning the count. Every day, for seven weeks, they would count the Sefirah (today we count after the evening services). When it came to the fiftieth day, they would bring another grain offering, this time of wheat, as the wheat crop will have ripened. This offering was for the holiday of Shavuot – the holiday of the receiving of the Torah.

The Alter Rebbe, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi the founder of the Chabad movement, gives a mystical explanation for the counting of the Sefirah. He describes the two grains, barley and wheat, as symbols for a deeper meaning. He explains as follows: The Jewish people had to prepare for the receiving of the Torah. Especially because, when they were slaves in Egypt, they had sunk to a very, very low unclean level of spirituality. In order to be worthy and ready to receive the Torah they had to undergo a spiritual cleansing process to get rid of the spiritual uncleanness. According to Kabbalah, there are forty-nine levels of spiritual uncleanliness. Unfortunately, they had descended all the way down to the forty-ninth level. If *Hashem* hadn't come at that time to redeem the Jewish people from Egypt, they would have sunk below the forty-ninth level of uncleanliness – from which there can be no redemption. They had to work their way up through the forty-nine levels of self-improvement until, at the fiftieth day, they were worthy to receive the Torah.

Now we have the question of why forty-nine levels? It is explained this way; in the kabbalistic model there are seven levels of the holy emotions and seven levels of the animalistic emotions. The animalistic emotions are the aspects of a human being that we have to refine and control in order to bring ourselves closer to Hashem. This process of emotional refinement is represented by the grain offering of the barley. Why barley? According to Torah, the barley represents the animal aspect because barley is a grain predominantly used as animal feed. Wheat represents the higher aspects as it is primarily used as food for humans. Wheat is the primary grain used as offerings on the altar. (There are only two times in the Torah when barley is used as an offering, on the second day of Pesach as mentioned above and when a woman is accused but acquitted of adultery. Why barley again? The act of adultery is considered giving in to animalistic lust, so the offering is barley – the food of animals.)

So for each of the seven weeks we have a weekly focus on one of the seven animalistic emotions. Each day of the week also corresponds to one of the seven emotions, which modifies the emotional quality that is the primary focus of the particular week. For example, the first day of each week is about *chesed* (kindness), the second day of each week is about *gevurah* (severity), the third *tiferet* (beauty) etc., these repeat through each of the seven weeks modifying the primary weekly emotion. The first week is primarily *chesed*, the second week is primarily *gevurah*, the third week *tiferet*, etc. Each of the 49 days has two emotional qualities associated with it – a primary weekly emotion modified by the daily quality. Seven weeks times seven days per week equals forty-nine days and forty-nine different combinations of emotional refinement.

After we finish the counting of the Sefirah we come to the fiftieth level and then we bring a grain offering of wheat representing the food of humans and the higher, intellectual qualities that differentiate humans from animals.

We can also understand another aspect of grain offerings. All the grain offerings in the temple had to be unleavened like matzoh with the exception of Shavuot when they had to bring a grain offering that was *chometz*. What's the idea behind this? *Chometz* represents evil because it represents boastfulness due to the inflation of the ego. *Chometz* will puff itself up as it leavens and represents our ego puffing up with haughtiness. This is in contrast to matzoh which is not puffed up and represents humility and ego nullification. The counting of the Sefirah is about refining and controlling our animalistic emotional qualities. So when it comes to Shavuot we take the grain offering of wheat and we make it into *chometz* to show that we are sacrificing the negative, haughty qualities of our emotional selves in order to be closer to *Hashem*.

So we can see that the Sefirah is not simply counting numbers but it is a framework for self-improvement. Forty-nine days, and each one a unique opportunity to improve a different aspect of our personalities with the hope that we will be ready to receive the Torah into our hearts and be moved to live our lives in the way Hashem asks of us.

For more information on the counting of the Sefirah, check out chabad.org or call Chabad House, 99-LEARN (995-3276). ■

Jewish Learning Institute class on the "Gift of Shabbat" begins May 17

Rabbi Alter Goldstein, special to the WJN

The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) will present "Oasis in Time: The Gift of Shabbat in a 24/7 World," the institute's new six-session Spring 2011 course, which will begin in over 350 cities internationally during the week of May 17.

Rabbi Goldstein of Ann Arbor will conduct the six course sessions at 9:30-11 a.m. and 7:30-9 p.m. on Tuesday from May 17 at the Chabad House and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor.

"I see this course as Judaism's secrets to serenity," said Rabbi Goldstein. "Amidst the many distractions in our age of information technology, it will empower individuals of all persuasions to find respite from perpetual urgencies and focus on what's truly important in life."

"We explore the mystical, psychological, social, and cultural dimensions of Shabbat to unlock a model for how to find serenity and a transcendent frame of mind throughout life's experiences," said course author, Rabbi Zalman Abraham of JLI's Brooklyn headquarters. "From traditional and kabbalistic sources, we uncover insights that shed light on tranquility and the meaning of Shabbat, as well as timeless principles for how to achieve a life of inner peace while making each workday more productive and fulfilling.

Like all previous JLI programs, Oasis in Time is designed to appeal to people at all levels of Jewish knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple, or other house of worship. ■

Last Years JLI class

Course overview

The Gift of Rest

What role does net worth play in how we define our success? The gift of Shabbat provides a priceless sense of self-worth in our most basic state, without feeling the need to achieve.

The Gift of Investment

The serenity and enjoyment of Shabbat is the culmination of a week's work. Jewish culture's emphasis on preparing for Shabbat presents a model for getting more out of life's experiences by maximizing the effort we invest into shaping them.

The Gift of Love

The light of the Shabbat candles and heightened spiritual awareness on Shabbat illuminates the need to value the uniqueness of others and to investinfamilyandinterpersonalrelationships. This lesson outlines a clear roadmap for how to approach conflict resolution.

The Gift of Pleasure

In this time of great bounty, we have never found it harder to negotiate moderation with healthy pleasure. Shabbat's definition of holiness is a prototype for how to synthesize spirituality and enjoyment.

The Gift of Purpose

Shabbat offers a transcendent frame of mind to objectively evaluate our work and add meaningful focus to our pursuit of a satisfying career. Shabbat's neat construct of thirty-nine creative activities offers a framework to define a life of purposeful accomplishment.

The Gift of Every Moment

From the multi-sensory experience of Havdalah, we learn how to introduce serenity into the chaotic moments. By identifying the spirituality within the mundane, we transform our week into one that is entirely Shabbat.

Interested students may call 995-3276 x 2 or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and other course-related information.

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This month's activities at Beth Israel Congregation

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Wednesday Lunch and Learn Sessions

May 11, 18, and 25, Noon–1:15 p.m.

These sessions, facilitated by Rabbi Robert Dobrusin or Rabbi Kim Blumenthal, take place at the Garfunkel Schteingart Activities Center (2010 Washtenaw Avenue). Participants are asked to bring a dairy lunch; refreshments and desserts are provided free of charge by the congregation.

Shabbat Limmud

Saturday, May 7 and 21, 9–9:50 a.m.

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin will lead a discussion of Jewish texts in the Beth Israel adult library. Participants may join the Shabbat morning service at the conclusion of the study session.

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, May 14 and May 28, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat is a Saturday morning service for parents and their children 2–5 years old which includes songs, stories, and prayers. This program is run by Peretz Hirshbein (JCC Early Childhood Center assistant director) on the second and fourth Saturday of each month, with the mysterious "Shabbat Box," fun songs, Torah processions with stuffed Torah toys, and a Kiddush for tots. Preschool sized tables are set up for the regular kiddush so that families may easily attend with their children following Tot Shabbat. There is no charge for this monthly program.

Mini Minyan for children in K–2nd grades

Saturday, May 14, 11 a.m.

The Mini Minyan is a program offered on the second Saturday morning of each month and it serves as a bridge between Tot Shabbat that is aimed at preschool children and their parents and Kehillat Shabbat which is intended for 3rd–5th graders. Mini Minyan features many of the same songs and stories enjoyed during Tot Shabbat, while also offering the chance for children to learn and explore many of the Shabbat morning prayers through age appropriate activities. The Mini Minyan service is led by program director Jacob Kander with special games and activities led by a team of parent volunteers.

Kehillat Shabbat

Saturday, May 14, 11 a.m.

This is a Saturday morning program for K–5th grades that includes a morning service to celebrate, to schmooze and to learn, led by Gabe Pachter.

Beth Israel Men's Club

On Sunday, May 15, at 9:30 a.m., the Men's Club will be cutting back ivy and shrubs, cleaning the grounds, and planting around the grounds of Beth Israel Congregation. The contact person is Harvey Somers at harveysomers@gmail.com. Bob Carbeck is forming a running club to train for and participate in the Dexter-Ann Arbor 5K/10K/ ½ marathon on Sunday, June 5. The contact person is Bob Carbeck at Carbeckr@ewashtenaw.org. The Men's Club will meet on Sunday, May 15, at 9:30 a.m., for its monthly get together.

Friday Night Lights Service and Dinner

Friday, May 20th, 6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 7 p.m. Dinner.

During the service, students will be called up to lead prayers and songs. The dinner will feature a dairy pasta bar, as well as an ice cream sundae bar. The cost of dinner is $7 per person, with children ages 3 and under attending for free. Reservations are due by noon on Monday, May 16.

First Annual Geocaching Day

Sunday, May 29, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Geocaching is a hobby enjoyed by thousands of people around the world. Using a handheld GPS, geocachers search for "caches" hidden in off the beaten path locations around town or around the world. The caches, treasures of varied sizes, may contain some items (always of little or no real value) for trading or may only have a log book to sign. But, it doesn't matter because the true enjoyment of geocaching comes in the search and in the discovery of out of the way places that often go unnoticed.

GPS units will be provided, (although participants may bring their own) along with snacks and all the training beginners might need. Participants will then be divided into groups to travel around Ann Arbor and the surrounding area in search of caches. Participants are asked to bring along a dairy picnic lunch and the event will end at Gallup Park. Old clothes, shoes which can get dirty or wet, and bug repellant are recommended as walking in the woods which will be part of the experience. A few items to trade, though nothing of real value, will also be helpful. The event starts at Beth Israel for a geocaching seminar over coffee and donuts at 9 a.m. There is no charge for this event. Contact Rabbi Dobrusin if you have any questions. The rain date will be Memorial Day, May 30, at the same time. Reservations are recommended so that participants can be contacted if the weather is questionable. ■

April events at Temple Beth Emeth

Brett Willner, special to the WJN

Women's Torah Study

Monday, May 2 and 16, 7–8:30 p.m.

Cantor Annie Rose leads a Women's Torah Study at Temple Beth Emeth. The Women of Reform Judaism Women's Commentary has become a major source of insight for those studying Torah in depth or simply reading the weekly parsha, portion. This month the Women's Torah group will be studying Emor and B'chukotai.

Yom HaShoah Observance

Friday, May 6, 7:30 pm

This Shabbat Service, in observance of Holocaust Memorial Day, is written and organized by Generations After, a Caring

Community group whose families perished or survived the Holocaust. The community is invited to attend

Jewish Hikers of Michigan

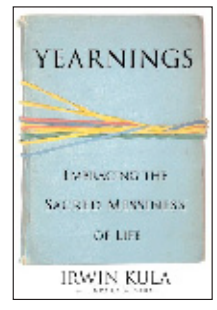
Sunday, May 22, 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Temple Beth Emeth sponsors a hiking group for the Jewish Community. This month's hike will leave from the Ann Arbor JCC following the Celebrate Israel Day festivities and walk to Brown Park on Verle Avenue. The hikes last between 1½–2 hours and are not physically demanding. No pets are allowed. For more information or to be added to Jewish Hikers of Michigan's email list, contact Eli Avny, 883-9522 or jewish.hikers@gmail.com.

Spirituality Book Club

Tuesday, May 3, 7:30–9 p.m.
Thursday May 5, noon–1:30 p.m.

Temple Beth Emeth's Spirituality Book Club will be reading *Yearnings: Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life* by Rabbi Irwin Kula. Participants are welcome to drop in for selected sessions or the entire series through June. Visit the TBE website, www.templebethemeth.org, for the book list for the year. Contact Cantor Rose, cantorannie@gmail.com, with questions.



Beginning Adult Hebrew: Spring Semester

Tuesday April 26–May 31, 6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

$80 for Members; $100 for non-Members

Temple Beth Emeth will be offering a six session Beginning Adult Hebrew class this spring. Adult Hebrew classes are ongoing classes throughout the year in cooperation with Beth Israel Congregation. Those who have ever wanted to learn the basics; including reading the letters of modern or biblical Hebrew will find this class is perfect. For more information contact Rabbi Delson, ldelson@templebethemeth.org or call 665-4744.

TNT: Outing to a Tiger's game

Sunday, May 15, noon

The Twenties and Thirties group is heading down to Detroit to witness the Detroit Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals. Tickets will cost $15. Car pools will be arranged and will leave from TBE at noon for the 1:05 p.m. start of the game. Those interested in driving can contact Brett Willner. For more information or to RSVP (by May 9) contact Brett Willner, bwillner@templebethemeth.org or call the TBE office, 665-4744.

Men's Torah Study

Wednesday, May 25, 7:30 p.m.

Temple Beth Emeth's Men's Torah study meets twice a month for an evening of learning. Refreshments served. For more information contact Roger Stutesman, rgstutesman@sbcglobal.net.

Families with Young Children Tot Story Hour

Monday, May 16, 10 a.m.

A monthly story hour for tots and their care-givers meets in the Temple Library and is hosted by Wendy Holden. This is a great way to meet other families. There is no need to RSVP

Movie Tuesday: Walk on Water (Laílechet al HaMayim)

Tuesday, May 17, 1–3 p.m.

This month's free movie is *Walk on Water*. The story centers on the relationship between an Israeli Mossad agent, Eyal, and

a German man, Axel, whose grandfather is an aging wanted criminal in Germany. Join other movie enthusiasts for this afternoon movie and discussion. Snacks are provided and everyone is welcome.

Continuing Adult Hebrew: Spring Semester

Thursday, April 28–June 2, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

$80 for Members; $100 for non-Members

Temple Beth Emeth will be offering a six session Continuing Adult Hebrew class this spring. Adult Hebrew classes are ongoing classes throughout the year in cooperation with Beth Israel Congregation. This class is perfect for anyone who has completed Beginning Hebrew. For more information contact Rabbi Delson, ldelson@templebethemeth.org or 665-4744.

Grief Support Group

A Grief Support Group is forming at Temple Beth Emeth. It will be moderated by a trained professional. If you are interested, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at ldelson@templebethemeth.org or 665-4744. ■

Sussmans to be honored

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Ron and Lonnie Sussman will be honored at Beth Israel Congregation's annual fundraiser on Sunday, June 12, 7–10 p.m.. This event will include a summery outdoor courtyard reception, dancing with DJ Neil Alexander, and teen performances marking the many years of service that Ron and Lonnie Sussman have devoted to the community.

Raised in Oak Park, Michigan, Ron Sussman and Elana Cutler met in the fourth grade, attended elementary, junior, and high school together, and even went to the senior prom together. After completing their undergraduate degrees, they married in 1970 and moved to the Ann Arbor area to attend graduate school at the University of Michigan: he in guidance counseling, she in social work. They both retired from public education in 2007 when Ron "re-careered" as an instructor at the University of Michigan.

In 1984 they officially joined Beth Israel Congregation. Their three children, Mira, Ari, and Eitan attended Hebrew Day School, and the whole family became intimately involved with Camp Tavor as Ron managed the camp for twelve years, with Lonnie and the kids at his side every summer. The family gradually got more and more involved with synagogue life, and as the Conservative Movement

Lonnie and Ron Sussman

opened up more opportunities for women, Lonnie celebrated her adult bat mitzvah in 1987. She began her bar/bat mitzvah tutoring career the following summer at Camp Tavor, thus beginning her second career.

After many years of helping on the *bima*, Ron became Beth Israel's ritual assistant in 1994. Since then, together Ron and Lonnie have tutored and assisted in the b'nai mitzvah and b'not mitzvah of over 300 children. For further information and to receive an invitation, contact the Beth Israel office, 665-9897. ■

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Wasserman Schultz brings Jewish identity to top party role

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Debbie Wasserman Schultz's first day as a sophomore in the U.S. House of Representatives, on Jan. 8, 2007, was marked by a number of extraordinary achievements for a woman barely out of her first term. Named to the Democratic caucus leadership. Named to the all-powerful Appropriations Committee. Named as a major fundraiser—$17 million—for the party's breakthrough 2006 election. Named by a tabloid as one of the 50 most beautiful people on Capitol Hill.

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Yet dominating her victory party were blow-ups of headlines from Jewish newspapers: Wasserman Schultz had led the passage of the act establishing Jewish American Heritage Month.

President Obama last week named Wasserman Schultz (D-Fla.), 44, to the most powerful party position, chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee. Even before she has formally assumed the job, the question of her Jewish identity has stirred speculation.

Jewish Democrats say Obama's choice of a successor to former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine in the top party fundraising spot is a signal of Obama's commitment to a loyal constituency: the Jews. "I guarantee you that her being a woman played a role in the choice, I guarantee you that her being from Florida played a role," said David Harris, the president of the National Jewish Democratic Council. "But I also guarantee you that her being Jewish played a role."

The question remains open of what role, if any, Wasserman Schultz's Judaism will play as she leads the Democratic Party into the 2012 elections, when it hopes to re-elect Obama, maintain the majority in the Senate and erode the Republican majority in the House. Wasserman Schultz declined to be interviewed for this story.

"She is so, so excited to be Jewish," said Shelley Rood, who worked as a legislative assistant in Wasserman Schultz's office and is now a senior legislative associate at the Jewish Federations of North America. "She really enjoys working with Jewish organizations because she believes their priorities for America are right on."

Wasserman Schultz arrived at politics through Jewish activism, which has been a centerpiece of her career. The same year Wasserman Schultz was running for her first legislative position, the Florida House in 1992, she joined the National Jewish Democratic Council as a staffer leading its Florida operation.

"It was a regional office where you had one person on her own," Steve Gutow, then the NJDC director, said of Wasserman Schultz, who was just 25 at the time. "But all the things we wanted to happen, happened. She had a strong sense of self; she had a mind of her own."

That single-mindedness and willingness to work with what she had shepherded her through stints in both Florida houses, and then for Congress after her old boss, Peter Deutsch, quit his Fort Lauderdale-area district for an unsuccessful U.S. Senate run in 2004.

She won handily and was immediately picked by Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), then the minority leader in the House, as a leader. Pelosi asked Wasserman Schultz to push potential first-timers past the finish line in 2006.

That's the year Wasserman Schultz formed friendships with Kirsten Gillibrand, who won a seat in upstate New York, and with Gabrielle Giffords, who won an Arizona seat (Gillibrand is now a U.S. senator). Wasserman Schultz's tireless work with both women was critical to winning both races in districts that might easily have swung Republican.

That helped Democrats sweep the House that year and won Wasserman Schultz the chief deputy whip job in her second term, and the plum spot on the Appropriations Committee.

It also led to close friendships and regular lunches for the three relatively young female lawmakers. When an assailant shot Giffords in the head in January, Wasserman Schultz and Gillibrand were among the first to fly to her bedside, and they were there when she pronounced her first words since the shooting: a request for toast.

Giffords' chief of staff, Pia Carusone, says Wasserman Schultz has been "invaluable" in supporting the staff. Wasserman Schulz and Giffords shared many interests, Carusone said, but exploring their shared Judaism was critical.

"There are not that many women in office, and not so many Jewish women, so it has been a nice friendship," Carusone told JTA.

Wasserman Schultz is seen as a team player. She was a strident leader in the 2008 primary campaign for Hillary Rodham Clinton, and easily shifted to Team Obama when Clinton withdrew—a shift Obama has now repaid.

Republicans deride her as a partisan. Hours after the announcement that she'd be the next party chair, the Republican Jewish Coalition issued a statement citing her connection with J Street, a liberal group that calls itself pro-Israel, pro-peace but which the RJC describes as marginal and anti-Israel, to question her bona fides.

"In blindly conferring legitimacy on fringe groups like J Street, she has raised serious questions about her own credibility and judgment," RJC Executive Director Matt Brooks said.

Wasserman Schultz has praised J Street a handful of times, and she had addressed the organization at least once.

Capitol Hill insiders dismissed the flap as RJC politicking—Brooks' statement resulted in immediate praise for Wasserman Schultz from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee and from the Jewish Federations of North America. Neither organization is prone to praise promotions to hyperpolitical jobs, so the mere issuance of the statements was a clear establishment message to the RJC to pipe down.

As for Wasserman Schultz, she's not afraid to take hard shots. Last October, appearing on "Fox News Sunday" with Rep. Eric Cantor (R-Va.), then the minority whip and the only Republican Jewish lawmaker in Congress, she chided him for not repudiating a Republican

continued on page 34

Jewish groups debate ways to thwart U.N. recognition of "Palestine"

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) – The path to international recognition of Palestinian statehood by September—when the Palestinians plan to bring the matter before the U.N. General Assembly—seems clear. The question before Israel and its supporters who oppose such recognition is how to create a detour.

Some say the way to go is through diplomatic suasion. Others say there needs to be a push forward with peace initiatives. Still others believe that threatening counteractions is the best way to derail the Palestinian plan.

Israeli officials have warned that unilateral recognition of Palestine could be countered by unilateral Israeli steps, like West Bank annexation.

The only certainty is that Israel expects the fallout from such recognition of Palestine to be disastrous. Several weeks ago, Ehud Barak, the Israeli defense minister, called it a "diplomatic tsunami."

At the moment, the Palestinian plan is to get a sympathetic nation on the 15-member U.N. Security Council, where decisions carry the weight of international law, to propose recognition, and at the same to get two-thirds of the General Assembly to recognize the state of Palestine, in itself a propaganda victory. Should the United States, as expected, veto a Security Council resolution recognizing Palestine, the Palestinians would try to invoke the rarely used General Assembly Resolution 377, also known as the "Uniting for Peace" resolution, which allows the General Assembly to override the Security Council.

The latter scenario is what Israel and its friends want to avoid; its use in 1981 set the legal framework for a decade of boycotts of South Africa that ultimately helped topple that country's apartheid regime.

Israel and its allies are in agreement on the technical approach to running the Palestinian Authority approach off the road.

Step one is to avoid the necessity of a U.S. veto in the Security Council by thwarting the nine votes that any initiative needs to pass the 15-member Security Council, absent a veto. Failure to get such a majority on the Security Council likely would inhibit Palestinian efforts to bring the matter to the General Assembly, which meets in September.

Alan Elsner, senior communications director for The Israel Project, met in New York with U.N. diplomats last month. He counted off what he believed would be five sure votes against the proposal on the current council: Permanent members France, Britain and the United States, and rotating members Germany and Colombia. "If they can't get it through the Security Council, they would lose a lot of momentum," he said of the Palestinian statehood push.

The focus then would be to draw in at least one more Western or Western-leaning country from among the rotating ten members. There are three possibilities, according to Elsner. One is Portugal. The second is E.U. aspirant Bosnia & Herzegovina, a Muslim country that is likely to side with the West given its lingering distrust of Russia for backing Serbia during the Yugoslav wars of the 1990s. The third is Gabon, an oil-rich West African autocracy that has close relations with France and that has been cultivated in recent years by Jewish leaders including Jack Rosen of the Council for World Jewry.

The other members of the council are permanent members Russia and China and rotating members India, Lebanon, Brazil, Nigeria and South Africa.

The parallel strategy, Elsner said, is to lay the groundwork now by explaining to diplomats from 120 nations who routinely favor Palestinians that even a symbolic recognition of Palestine is no ordinary rebuke of Israel.

"The trick is to make countries aware that this is not a routine vote," Elsner said, noting that such an effort already was underway in Congress. Key congressmen from both parties are reaching out to ambassadors to explain that such a vote would have repercussions in terms of relations with the United States.

David Harris, the executive director of the American Jewish Committee, which focuses on U.S. Jewish outreach internationally, said European opposition to Palestinian statehood was not a sure thing. "How the European Union will behave matters greatly," Harris said, noting that the world's 192 nations look to its 27 members for moral leadership. "Whether the E.U. will take a single unified position or will break down into national positions remains to be seen."

Daniel Mariaschin, the executive director of B'nai B'rith International, said that when he meets with diplomats, he points out the long-term harm to peace that U.N. recognition would bring, in the absence of a real peace deal.

"The question at the beginning of the meeting goes like this," he said, describing his approach with foreign diplomats and leaders. "'Do you believe in a negotiated settlement as the best resolution for the conflict?' They say 'Yes.' Then we say, 'Why would you prejudge the outcome for recognizing a Palestinian state before contentious issues have been decided?'"

Mariaschin noted that every peaceful outcome in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been the result of negotiations, starting with the Egypt-Israel accords negotiated by Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat. "Now we're turning the clock back pre-Begin and Sadat, and it's not a prescription for success," Mariaschin said he tells these leaders .

Aaron David Miller, a longtime negotiator for successive U.S. administrations, outlined in a recent *Washington Post* op-ed how the initiative could boomerang on the Palestinians, causing Israel to take unilateral action.

"The Palestinian campaign will also prompt intensified Israeli settlement activity in an effort to remind Palestinians that Israeli actions are real, not virtual," he wrote. "Should the Palestinians declare statehood, Israel will probably act to demarcate what part of the West Bank it intends to keep."

Unilateral Palestinian action also would likely alienate the Obama administration and spur Congress to cut off funds, Miller said. Those advocating the peace tracks say Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu needs to counter the Palestinian statehood push with a peace initiative serious enough to prompt allies of the Palestinians to nudge them back to direct talks with Israel. "How Israel engages in its public diplomacy with regard to the resumption of the peace talks and how it engages in its private diplomacy will have real impact in shaping how other countries react," Harris said. "Israel must convince the world it is absolutely dead serious about moving the peace process forward."

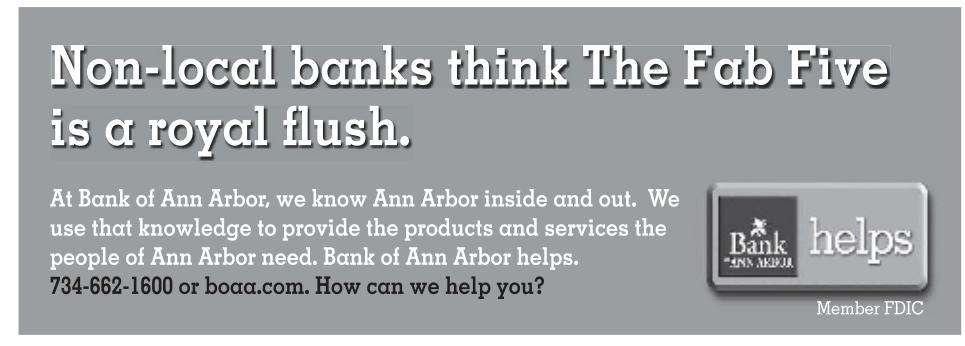
In April, Netanyahu joined Rep. John Boehner (R-Ohio), the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, in announcing plans for an Israeli prime ministerial address to both chambers of Congress in the first week of May. That's a signal of Netanyahu's intention to present a new peace initiative.

Separately, U.S. officials have indicated that the Obama administration also is ready to re-enter the process after months of inactivity since the Palestinian walkout from direct peace talks with Israel in September, when Netanyahu refused to extend a self-imposed partial settlement freeze.

There are rumors circulating in Washington that President Obama plans to lay out his own vision even before Netanyahu's arrival, in order to make sure the Israelis understand the American bottom line of a solution based on the 1967 borders, with adjustments.

The AJC's Harris said Israel and the United States need to launch a "full-court press" by summer to head off recognition in the fall.

"The consequential countries are looking for signs and signals from Israel and the United States—what will the prime minister say to Congress next month, will President Obama come to Israel in the summer," Harris said. "There are a lot of important moments that can happen between now and the fall." ■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In Prague, balancing Muslim-Jewish ties with shul leadership

By Symi Rom-Rymer

PRAGUE (JTA)—On a cold December evening in 2009, 26-year-old Karel Goldmann faced an uphill battle and he knew it.

He had just proposed to his fellow synagogue board members a low-key, meet-and-greet between the members of Bejt Simcha, one of Prague's progressive synagogues, and Emir Omič, the imam of Prague. Goldmann's idea was to give members of his community a chance to learn about Islam from a Muslim leader.

"I wanted to have Imam Omi over for tea and have him speak about Islam and its similarities with Judaism," Goldmann told JTA. "I wanted members of Bejt Simcha to know that not all Muslims are terrorists." But when the matter came to a vote, there was only one voice on the seven-member board in favor of the proposal: Goldmann's.

Self-effacing and with an easy laugh, Goldmann does not seem the controversial type. Yet he has become one of the Jewish community of Prague's most outspoken grassroots advocates of Jewish-Muslim dialogue at a time when such ideas are unpopular among many Czech Jews. In the Czech Republic, where the small Jewish community is apprehensive of Muslim-Jewish interaction, interfaith activities like those Goldmann supports are viewed with skepticism.

"I want to be on good terms with Muslims, but can they claim the same?" asks Ivan Kohout, Bejt Simcha's cantor. "Islamic fundamentalism is growing, and I have reservations about such dialogue."

It's not too hard to find Jewish-Muslim dialogue in the United States, from national programs to events at individual synagogues. But in the Czech Republic, the little formal Jewish-Muslim interaction that exists is limited to top religious leaders. As with other communities in Europe, Jews in this community of 3,000 to 4,000 people are mostly wary of Muslims. Muslims have been linked to anti-Semitic incidents on the continent, and many Europeans view Muslims as threatening the European way of life.

But not Goldmann. He blogs for *Idnes*, the Czech Republic's second-largest newspaper, about how prejudice and xenophobia plague both Jews and Muslims. He contributes to a magazine called *Secrets of Islam.* He writes articles in his synagogue's magazine about similarities between Judaism and Islam and the insidiousness of anti-Islamic rhetoric.

Even in his progressive congregation, it's often a tough balance between being an advocate for Muslim-Jewish ties and a synagogue leader.

Goldmann said his rabbi recently pulled him aside and said, "Karel, I know you and your articles are interesting, but I do hope you are not in touch with extremists."

"Sometimes my opinions about Muslims are really different from the community," Goldmann says with characteristic understatement. "I question everything. I don't like firm opinions. If you can't change your opinions, you are ideological but it doesn't mean you are right." He adds, "Almost everyone looks at me like I'm lost."

Goldmann's outspokenness on Muslim-Jewish issues is the culmination of a pair of personal journeys that began when he learned of his Jewish roots at the age of 18.

Judaism played almost no role in the Goldmann family's identity. Goldmann's grandfather, an assimilated Jew with German roots, abandoned his family and fled to Germany after the Communist coup in 1948. Those he left behind suppressed any connection to Judaism. As the Iron Curtain came down, Czechoslovak Jews won the freedom to practice their religion. But the history of assimilation and community repression had made its mark.

Although occasionally teased about his Jewish-sounding name at school, at no point during Goldmann's childhood did his family ever talk to him about his Jewish roots.

He only learned of them in his late teens when his father mentioned it in a conversation about religion, in which Goldmann had developed an interest. Goldmann soon embarked on a quest to discover what being Jewish meant.

The only way to change things is to push for greater friendships between Muslims and Jews, says Goldmann.

He turned to Orthodox Judaism, the denomination of the official Jewish community here, but found it too restrictive. Although he eventually underwent an Orthodox conversion so that he could participate fully in religious services – Goldmann's mother is not Jewish —Goldmann found his true home among progressive Jews.

Then came his political awakening. In the early 2000s, Goldmann enrolled as a student at Charles University in Prague, intending to study Judaism. But because there was no separate Jewish studies program, Goldmann was placed in classes with students studying other religions, including Islam.

"Before I started university, I thought that Muslims were trying to convert us to Islam or were going to make a jihad on the Czech Republic," Goldmann said.

The experience of getting to know Muslims personally helped him overcome deep-seated prejudices about them. After graduating, Goldmann began blogging for Idnes about Jewish-Muslim issues, and he soon came to the attention of Lukáš Lhot'an, an editor of the magazine *Secrets of Islam.*

"He not only mentioned Jewish problems, but also problems that Muslims face," Lhot'an remarked. "I thought that he wrote objectively."

The two became good friends, and Goldmann became a contributor to *Secrets of Islam.* Although other Jews don't share his predilections, Goldmann believes that his friendship with Lhot'an and other Muslims helps the Jewish community. "When I talk with the Muslim community in the Czech Republic, it makes our image better," he said.

When it comes to Israel-related issues, Goldmann recognizes there are differences between the two communities, but he says part of that is public posturing. Over a beer at the pub, his Muslim friends aren't as dogmatic as in public. The only way to change things, he says, is to push for greater friendships between Muslims and Jews.

"It's important to have a personal connection," Goldmann said. "We need to discuss the Middle East conflict face to face, to keep talking about it and not repeat nonsense."

Meanwhile, Goldmann has become a leader in his synagogue, involved in fundraising and other inter-communal outreach programs.

There have been times, especially during the past year, when he thought he might have to shelve his interfaith work so as not to do damage to Bejt Simcha, which is trying to grow.

But ultimately, Goldmann says, he can no more hide his frustration at the growing anti-Muslim rhetoric in the Czech Republic than he can deny his Jewish identity. Now, more than ever, he must speak up, he says.

"Now is the time to not step back and make room for anti-Islamic rhetoric," he says. "I am trying to discuss these topics with people, to contribute to the change. What else can I do?" ■.

Op-Ed: Lithuania must finish its work in confronting Holocaust past

By Andrew Baker

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Lithuania's Parliament has declared 2011 a Year of Commemoration to Victims of the Holocaust. Whether this will turn out to be a disappointing empty gesture or a genuine opportunity to address unfinished issues is an open question.

In May 1998, the presidents of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia invited me to a Baltic summit in Riga. Each president announced the creation of a national historical commission to provide a means to examine openly and critically the Holocaust period in their respective countries.

Since the Baltic States were forcibly annexed to the Soviet Union before the end of World War II, no objective analysis had ever taken place. Each president also recognized that a historical examination must address the Communist period as well.

While the commissions in Estonia and Latvia have finished their work, the one in Lithuania is stalled. It has faltered and fallen victim to critics inside the country who sought to derail it and to critics outside who from the beginning have sought to repudiate it.

When President Valdas Adamkus established the Lithuanian Historical Commission, he was sensitive to charges that grouping the Holocaust and Soviet crimes under one umbrella would draw equivalencies between the two. Therefore, separate sub-commissions conducted the work.

Lithuania stands alone among all its neighbors in not restituting former Jewish communal property.

What has been produced so far—the combined works of historians from Europe, the United States and Israel—can stand the scrutiny of historians anywhere.

These historians describe the widespread anti-Semitism that was present in Lithuania before the Nazi occupation. And they offer documentation on the role of Lithuanians in the Holocaust crimes—perhaps less than what some critics abroad have asserted, but surely more than what many in present-day Lithuania want to believe. Unfortunately, publication of these first essays and documents has been limited. They deserve wider distribution and attention.

This important research would have continued if the general prosecutor had not opened an investigation into the wartime activities of Yitzak Arad and other Jewish partisans. Arad, a noted historian and founding director of Yad Vashem, was an important contributing member of Lithuania's historical commission. There is little doubt that the investigation was initiated with political motives in mind to obstruct the commission's work.

It is not easy to confront the dark chapters in one's national history. After regaining their freedom, the Baltic states were correctly singled out for not disciplining their own citizens who cling to the memories of a Nazi past. Waffen SS veterans paraded in Riga and were received by senior government officials. Nazi war criminals were sent back to Lithuania, but prosecutors were reluctant to bring charges. Though these criticisms were fair in the 1990s, since then there has been definite if incomplete progress.

During this Year of Remembrance for Victims of the Holocaust, Lithuania should address those issues which still remain a source of irritation in Lithuanian-Jewish relations as well as implement new initiatives that can have lasting value. The prosecutor's 6-year-old investigation into the wartime activities of the Soviet Partisans, with its particular interest in the actions of Jewish members, needs to end. The national historical commission should reconvene, complete its work, publish its analysis and documentation of the Holocaust in Lithuania and widely disseminate those findings.

Lithuania stands alone among all its neighbors in not restituting former Jewish communal property. After many years of negotiations, the Parliament is now considering legislation that would pay partial compensation for these properties.

This bill should be passed soon and compensation funds transferred to the Lithuanian Jewish Heritage Foundation, which links international Jewish organizations with the Lithuanian Jewish community. The foundation will guarantee transparency and insure that there is ongoing support for Jewish communal activities and the restoration of Jewish heritage in the country.

The tragic reality of the Holocaust in Lithuania is that the long and rich history of Litvak culture came to an abrupt end with those murdered and buried in the mass graves at Ponary on the outskirts of Vilnius.

This year of remembrance also should be the occasion to develop an appropriate plan for this site that befits its significance. Ponary is a pilgrimage place for mourners and a heritage site of tragic history. The stories of the 70,000 Jews who perished there should be told to visitors, using the tools and techniques of modern museum design and drawing from the experience of other mass graves memorials.

At long last, ths is the year for Lithuania to join the list of nations that have come to terms with their Holocaust-era past. ■

Rabbi Andrew Baker is the American Jewish Committee's director of international Jewish affairs.

Dr. Julie Nagel on the intersection of psychology and music

Sandor Slomovits, staff writer

Dr. Julie Nagel is a psychoanalyst with a private practice in Ann Arbor and is on the faculty of the Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute. She also lectures widely on, among other things, the intersection of psychology and music. Every year, at the meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association, she chairs a program called Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Music. Last year she was invited to give the Gertrude and Ernst Ticho Memorial Lecture at the American Psychoanalytic Association's Spring Meeting in Washington D.C. In the paper she delivered there she discussed her analysis of Leonard Bernstein's music for *West Side Story*.

She is married to concert pianist and University of Michigan professor of piano, Louis Nagel

WJN: Were you raised in a musical family?

Nagel: No, my grandfather was originally an actor, Shakespearian and vaudeville, and then changed careers to became a pharmacist. My mother always wanted to be a dancer, but that never happened. My father was an Olympic gold medalist in speed skating, three times, three gold medals.

WJN: Which Olympics?

Nagel: Twenty-eight and thirty two. Irving Jaffee. So, I guess you could say I have performance in my background, but music, no. I'm told I started picking out tunes on the piano when I was four years old. I just knew how to do that.

WJN: So there was a piano in the house.

Nagel: No, no, it was a toy piano. And then there was a real piano. I started lessons when I was six. When I was eleven, I changed teachers to a higher-level teacher, and had the bee in my bonnet from probably age six to be a concert pianist. My musical father was Leonard Bernstein, which is really interesting how it has kind of come in a circle, that in presenting and writing on West Side Story, I've been in touch with the Bernstein organization and when I presented my paper, Jamie Bernstein, Leonard's daughter, was my guest and we collaborated.

WJN: She's a pianist?

Nagel: No, she's a narrator and an author and she's very much into preserving the Bernstein heritage, as I love to do too. My major musical influence growing up was the Young People's Concerts. Bernstein's enthusiasm in talking about music and explaining it in a way that people could understand it and get excited about it influenced a whole generation of us. I wanted to be a concert pianist. I was good enough to get accepted at Julliard, to stay at Julliard.

WJN: That's where you met Louie?

Nagel: That's where I met Louie, my very first day. He was second year, I was first year. I was so impressed because I thought he knew everything about registration and teachers… Louis is one of the most amazing musicians as well as pianists I ever knew, and still do. When I went to Julliard, I'd grown up on Leonard Bernstein, who was on TV, and on recordings. I grew up in a small town, Newport News, in Virginia. I never knew real people could do that. And I get to Julliard, and there are a lot of them, but then there's Louie. He was special then and he's just gotten better.

WJN: How did you get from studying to be a concert pianist at Juilliard to the work you're doing now? It's sort of like what your grandfather did, actor to pharmacist, artist to healer.

Nagel: There is that precedent, which I didn't realize. When I was at Juilliard, I was good enough. Obviously, I got two degrees, but I always had stage fright. Didn't understand it, and there really was nowhere to go with it. I got two majors in piano and a minor in stage fright. (Laughter)

WJN: What form did your stage fright take?

Nagel: You name it, the shaking, the physical, the fear of making mistakes, the memory slips. I would get through my performances, but the fear of that took away so much enjoyment. And I started to wonder, I love music, I love making music, what happens? I couldn't understand it. Nobody would talk about it in those days. When I would talk with my teacher, who meant really well, he would say, "I'm not worried about you. Don't worry about yourself."

I was in music for many years, but I knew when I graduated that I did not want to be that concert pianist that I thought I wanted to be. I taught piano for many years. I taught general music in public schools.

WJN: Here in Ann Arbor?

Nagel: Here and in Long Island before we moved here.

WJN: How long have you lived in Ann Arbor?

Nagel: Since 1969 when Louis got his job here. I always was baffled by my stage fright. I gradually started to perform with Louis in two pianos and four hand. But I always didn't understand the stage fright part. So, there was a professor at the university in psychology, in the late 1970s who was doing research on test anxiety. And I asked him, "Do you know anything about musicians?" And he didn't. In those days there was hardly anything written about this. And we talked, and he was interested, and he said, "Do you want to come and audit some classes?" And I worked in his lab with test-anxious people, and then we did some research with musicians, and I learned more and more about this thing called psychology. One thing led to another, I went back to school at U-M in 1980. I got hooked. I loved it. And I didn't see myself retiring being a piano teacher. I was restless. I got my degree in social work and I got more and more hooked by the depths of how the mind works. I needed to know more. I got accepted into the doctoral program at the U-M in social work. I got my doctorate in social work and psychology in 1987, but I still didn't quite know what I was going to do. I thought I was going to be academic and see patients on the side. And just the opposite happened. I did some teaching at the university as a lecturer in social work and psychology, but nothing really jelled. And then I started taking some classes at the Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute. I got more hooked, because it felt like this was even going deeper into how to understand how the mind works. I got excited and wanted to train in psychoanalysis, so in 1996 I was accepted at the Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute and graduated as an analyst in 2003. This has been an ongoing, evolving and deepening process for me that I could never have predicted, or believed if you had tried to tell me. And yet, in looking back, it's the most natural thing.

I recently reconnected with a friend from Virginia that I knew since kindergarten. We lost contact and we reconnected, and she had saved some things and sent me a paper that I wrote in the 11th grade, and she got it because we had a little journal, and it was a paper that I wrote on music as the most beautiful language.

Dr. Julie Nagel

WJN: In 11th grade.

Nagel: 11th grade. It was 11th grade kind of writing, but all the pieces were there. So it's been an ongoing journey. I started writing and publishing about stage fright, and lecturing. I've given lectures and talks all over.

WJN: You do those alone and with Louis?

Nagel: Both. He talks about performance anxiety from a teaching perspective, and what teachers can do, which I think is hugely important, because teachers have that one on one special relationship.

And it has evolved into this thing about music and mind, and analyzing music as psychoanalytic data.

WJN: I read your Ticho paper and I was fascinated with what you did, examining the Tonight ensemble from West Side Story. Of course I've heard that piece many times before, but never took it apart the way you did, talking about C major and E major sounding simultaneously. I never listened to it that way.

Nagel: I don't either, but when I went to analyze it, the revelation when I opened the score…. This is where I love my music training and my psychoanalytic training, really coming together. When I open the score and I see… oh my God. Look what Bernstein did….

WJN: Do you think Bernstein sat down and said, "OK, I'm going to try to express this conflict by having two keys going on at the same time?"

Nagel: People ask me that a lot. I wish I could ask him, but even if he could tell us, I don't know if he would really know. I'll tell you what I have heard. Let me go back to another paper I wrote on West Side Story, which deals with Officer Krupke, and the use of the tritone, which is the most ambiguous musical interval. It's the interval that glues this piece together. It's the opening sound you hear in the overture and it's the last sound you hear in the whole piece, the tritone, the three whole tones that make up this weird sounding interval. This interval has been called "the devil in music" because it's so ambiguous. Where is it going to go? How is it going to resolve? Is it going to resolve? In West Side Story it doesn't resolve. West Side Story starts on a tritone and ends on a tritone. The question is, did Bernstein know that, because it permeates the whole score, particularly in the pieces that are ambiguous and conflictual. For example in "I Feel Pretty," Maria is very sure. There is no tritone in "I Feel Pretty." But the song, "Cool," or "Officer Krupke," have tritones. Did Bernstein know this? Well, supposedly he didn't and when it was pointed out to him, then supposedly he consciously used it. A genius like Bernstein, who knows? But what I did learn is that Bernstein grew up in a very Orthodox religious Jewish family. He went to the synagogue, he heard the shofar. The shofar's intervals are not really the tritone, but that gesture, that ta da! That kind of sound, I think, it was in his DNA, whether he knew it consciously when he used it or not. To me that's the mystery of creativity, the brilliance of genius.

WJN: There is a quote from your paper that I was particularly struck by, "Music sounds the way emotion feels."

Nagel: It's the non-verbal, the pre-verbal, and I think it reaches back down to those levels of development. I do think music can go where words can't. When you and I are talking, we can say one word at a time, although we may have many feelings, but when you put it into music you can put all those sounds together. And it's not just about the Jets and the Sharks in the play. It's also about us and all those conflicting feelings that are going on all the time inside of us too, which if you can hear it, you can feel it. Music can do that. I think that when you go to a concert, you're doing private work; you're sorting it out in some way. I think there is something about the formal structure of music that pulls at us, has this emotional impact. And it's the same thing with the formal structure of the mind, when you're dealing with conflict and resolution and ambiguity, consonance and dissonance.

WJN: You're in very a unique position, being so highly trained in both of these fields

Nagel: There is an overlap I have found in my own work between music and mind, concepts and formal structures, and I can talk about that. I believe in reaching out, going where people are, coffee shops and schools and universities, anywhere that you can reach out to people with the beauties and the intensities and the meanings of what goes on in music and what goes on in mental function is really, really important. This is important to take beyond the concert halls and consulting rooms into the community of ideas on education, social issues, perhaps even political discourse, and just as a way to think and understand our behavior and emotions. And so I think, a way to reach people with the value and the richness of the human mind, and how music is a part of that, is a passion of mine, to try to do that in as many ways and places as I can; writing, speaking, teaching, as well as the clinical work.

I don't regret the winding, and sometimes very difficult path. It's all folded in; everybody's past is folded into who they are at any given moment. I'm not glad I had stage fright, but it sure has deepened my understanding of so many aspects of being human. Nothing is wasted, not one minute is wasted. I'm just very thankful that I had the opportunity and the motivation to continue and try to make sense of it. ■

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah

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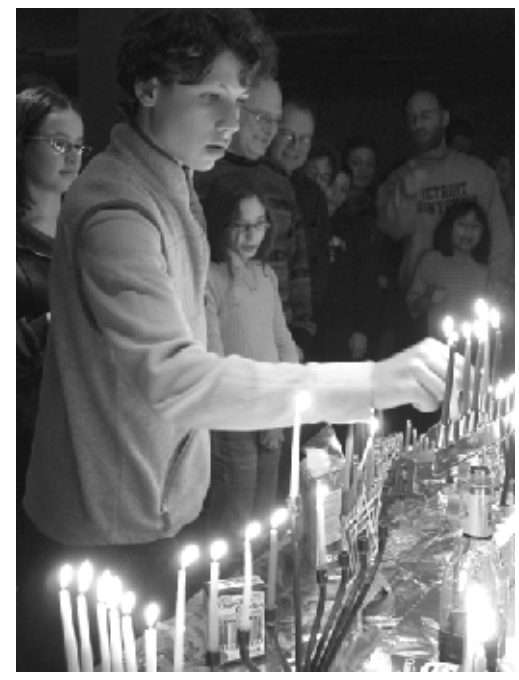

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- *Religion, Culture, Tikkun Olam*
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Food flight: Perusing American Jewry's past and present

By Elizabeth Alpern

NEW YORK (JTA)—Two relatively new books tell the story of American Jewry, weaving together its past and present by examining tradition and making it relevant to today's reader.

Where Sue Fishkoff's *Kosher Nation: Why More and More of America's Food Answers to a Higher Authority* (Schocken, 2010) is robust and detailed, Leah Koenig's *The Hadassah Everyday Cookbook: Daily Meals for the Contemporary Jewish Kitchen* (Universe, 2011) is spacious and adaptable.

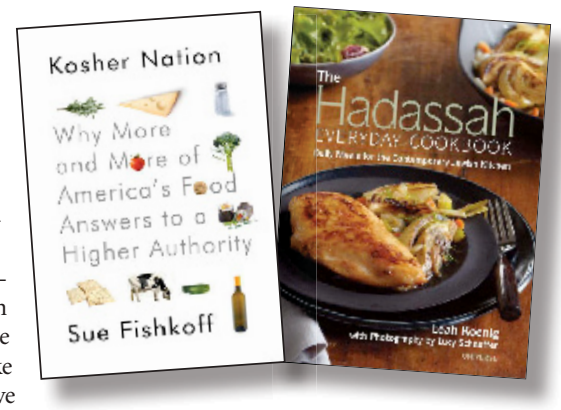
With the *The Hadassah Everyday Cookbook*, Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America has attempted to free itself from the matzah ball-and-chain and community cookbooks of its nearly 90-year past and plunge itself into the present-day reality of America's Jewish kitchen.

An increased interest in local and healthy food, and the amplified availability of kosher-certified products—with an assist from popular television shows—have created a market of ever-more sophisticated American Jewish consumers, and Koenig doesn't shy away from using trendy food items such as quinoa, miso and pomegranate.

Food is an important part of the Jewish home during Shabbat and holidays, but Jewish sensibilities don't always kick in on the days and weeks between. *The Hadassah Everyday Cookbook* attempts to fill in the gap.

The recipes are simple and fast—no six-hour braising times or intimidating French techniques. The book is meant to be used, and through its use will continue the story of American Jewish cooking. The recipes are kosher, of course, and Koenig's tone throughout is clear, concise and friendly. She informs the reader immediately that she is not a chef, and that a more experienced cook should "think of these recipes as flavors and ideas to riff off of."

Some of its best recipes are among the more unusual. Honey-Glazed Carrots with Za'atar presents a synchronicity of the unexpected sweetness of carrots and honey and the zing of za'atar, a dried spice mixture common in Middle Eastern cooking, and lemon zest. Sweet Potato Kale Soup with White Beans and Caramelized Vegetable Soup utilizes familiar flavors in updated ways.



"Jewish" and Israeli foods make an appearance in the form of Cheesecake in a Jar, an attractive dessert inspired by a classic Jewish sweet; Quick(er) Borscht, a 30-minute remedy to an Eastern European comfort food; and Sabich, a fried eggplant sandwich commonly on the menu at falafel joints.

Generally the recipes in *The Hadassah Everyday Cookbook* are global and health conscious, and more often than not vegetarian, reflecting an increased consumer consciousness of non-meat alternatives.

Kosher Nation contextualizes how it is that American Jewry got to a point where Walnut Pesto and Portobello Burgers, two foods not at all associated with traditional Jewish cuisine, appear in Koenig's Jewish cookbook published by a major Jewish organization.

Written with the probing voice of a journalist like the JTA's Fishkoff, *Kosher Nation* is a series of vignettes: the mashgiach in China hopping from factory to factory; the kosher winemaker experimenting in Napa; the Reform rabbi negotiating kashrut with a conflicted congregation.

Connecting these stories are data and history lessons on the building of today's behemoth kosher infrastructure that shows no signs of slowing its growth. "Today one third to one half of the food for sale in the typical American supermarket is kosher," Fishkoff informs the reader in her opening chapter.

This means that most people who buy kosher products are not even aware of what the small symbol on the label implies, but that many manufacturers see kosher as a hot food trend and kosher often is associated with cleaner, superior food in the American mind.

Kosher can even be connected with "hip": The popular television series "The Office" in a recent episode had a character slap a "K" on bottles of pesto made by his mother without actually having the product certified. In his defense he remarks, "I meant like, it's cool, it's kosher, it's all good."

Fishkoff's book helps make sense of that kind of pop culture reference.

It wasn't always this way. Until only several decades ago, meat was the primary concern of kosher authorities and strictly kosher food in general was relevant to only a small number of observant Jews. Many Jews kept some form of kosher, refraining from pork or the practice of "eating out," but American Jews often rejected dietary laws in an attempt to assimilate into the dominant culture.

With an increase in the number of *baalei teshuvah*, newly observant Jews, who refuse to settle for syrupy wine or processed cheese, combined with the increasing appeal of the kosher symbol to celiacs, vegetarians and many other demographics, the kosher industry has become relevant to manufacturers as far away as Thailand.

Fishkoff explains the rules of kashrut to the layperson, from biblical to Talmudic injunctions to modern-day stringencies that wouldn't have been an issue even a generation ago. She breaks down the kosher industry, from "The Big Four" certifying agencies to slaughterhouses to kosher caterers, and brings the reader up to date on some of the most relevant issues facing today's kosher consumer. They include the ethics involved in the scandal at the Agriprocessers meat plant in Postville, Iowa, and the burgeoning New Jewish Food Movement.

Throughout *Kosher Nation*, Fishkoff regards her subjects with objectivity. Even the most zealous figures—like the Chasid on a one-woman campaign to prevent Jews from ingesting insects—become sympathetic and even relatable. It is clear that Fishkoff was fascinated by the subject; the reader cannot help but be fascinated, too.

For anyone who remembers when Oreos became kosher, notices when sushi is served at an Orthodox wedding or simply wants to take a bite out of Jewish Americana, *Kosher Nation* offers a readable, in-depth exploration into the cultural shifts and subtleties surrounding the rise of an industry.

Paired with *The Hadassah Everyday Cookbook*, readers have a chance to re-examine food traditions far beyond the holiday table.

Dipping back into the origins of the kosher industry in America and then cooking recipes that reflect a contemporary kosher reality prove a filling and fulfilling experience. ■

Hebrew Day School celebrates 36 years, continued from page 1

Susan served on the board from 1989–1998, and was president from 1992–1995. The Gross children spoke at the event about the school's impact on their lives — on their appreciation of community, of ritual, and of the importance of connecting to and assisting other parts of the world. Lauren, a graduate of University of Pennsylvania, is an epidemiologist in Chicago. Carrie, a recent graduate of Yale Law School, is clerking for a Miami Federal Circuit Court judge, and Paul, a graduate of McGill University, is studying chiropractic medicine.

The 36th anniversary campaign effort, chaired by Judy and Todd Endelman, raised $700,000 in gifts and pledges. Most gifts will be given over a span of five years to provide sustained support for the school. "The economy has brought challenges to many of our families," said Head of School Dina Shtull, "and our need for scholarship funds has been increasing. We are energized by these great results. We have the Federation and our supporters to thank for their generosity," Shtull added. "The success of the campaign is a testament to the dedication and commitment of the whole community," shared HDS Board President Aaron Fried.

At the event, an announcement was made that another full-time professional to the HDS administrative team will be added to work exclusively on the educational mission of the school. "Excellent institutions don't just think about how to sustain themselves as they are," said President Elect Richard Primus. "Excellent institutions are always thinking how to be even better," he added. An anonymous multi-year additional gift of $350,000 will help support this position. The gift is contingent upon HDS raising another $100,000, of which 75 percent has been raised. In light of this progress, a national search will be conducted with the goal of filling the position in the spring of 2012.

Head of School, Dina Shtull, and Board President Aaron Fried

HDS has educated 734 students since it opened its doors 36 years ago. Like the Gross children, these students have gone on to distinguish themselves at first-ranked colleges and universities, making their mark in business and professional life, and ably and willingly help others around them. "It's wonderful to see the Hebrew Day School continue to flourish!" said founding principle Marlene Gitelman. "Several other small Jewish communities have failed to maintain their day schools, but HDS continues to be a labor of love for so many people," Gitelman added. To what does it contribute its success? "Of course there is the obvious; learning the Hebrew language, a knowledge of Jewish texts and history, and a strong secular education," says Gitelman. "The warm, caring atmosphere of HDS prepares the students to excel in the larger community. Less recognized are the benefits of the close friendships that are forged in a small school and the Jewish pride that becomes second-nature to our students," said Gitelman.

Alumni parent Lonnie Sussman, whose grandson Matan is a first grader at the school, agrees. "Our children, who are now in their late 20s and early 30s, continue friendships with many of their HDS classmates. We also made lifelong friends with other HDS parents," Sussman added. "In my professional encounters with day schools across the continent," shared Harlene Appelman, executive director of The Covenant Foundation and the 30th anniversary honoree along with her husband, Henry, "the most successful day schools have… viewed themselves as communities and behaved as such. It is clear that after 36 years, the Hebrew Day School has made a meaningful contribution to not only its students and their families but also to the Ann Arbor Jewish community, and that the Ann Arbor Jewish community has made a meaningful contribution to the school," she added.

Currently housed in the JCC building, the Hebrew Day School has had other homes in its 36 year history. In the fall of 1975, the school was housed in the B'nai Brith Hillel building on Hill Street. Another grade was added each year, and in 1977 the school moved to a larger facility at Bethlehem United Church of Christ. In 1979, HDS relocated to Beth Israel Congregation, and then in 1986 to the new JCC building. Portable classrooms provided extra space, until HDS replaced them in 1997 with permanent classrooms as part of the JCC expansion project. The school has been in the JCC building since then.

HDS offers a complete education including a full general studies curriculum and immersion Hebrew language instruction. Graduates are academically skilled, grounded in their identities, confident in their talents, and poised to contribute to the world. HDS leadership is pleased to give private tours. Contact 971-4633, or see the school website (www.hdsaa.org) for more information. ■

Calendar

May 2011

Sunday 1

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Burns Park Run Team: JCC-Youth. Join JCC's team for runners and walkers of all ages and abilities. 5K race, 10K race and Fun Run. Money raised will support the JCC Youth and Teen Programs. For information, contact Liz Kohn at liz.kohn27@gmail.com or Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org, or phone 971-0990.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Chaverim B'Shirim Concert: JCC. Ann Arbor's own all-volunteer choir, Chaverim B'Shirim, will entertain the community as they perform music from Kurt Weill. They will perform excerpts from many shows including *Knickerbocker Holiday, Lady in the Dark, One Touch of Venus,* and *Lost in the Stars.* $5/suggested donation. 1 p.m.

Youth Group Activity: Habonim Dror Pardes. Mayday peulah. 2–4 p.m.

Erev Yom Hashoah Service: BIC. Lighting of Shoah memorialcandlesduringregularminyan.7:30p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learningthe deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 2

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Torah Trop: TBE. Ongoing weekly group with Cantor Annie Rose. Noon.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. Study of *M'tzora.* Led by Cantor Annie Rose. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 3

"Shabbat: An Oasis in Time:" Jewish Learning Institute. Explore the mystical, psychological, social and cultural dimensions of Shabbat to unlock a model for how to find serenity and a transcendent frame of mind throughout life's experiences. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *Every Tuesday.*

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting for the patients of Mott Hospital, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Beginning Adult Hebrew: TBE. Spring semester class. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. Cantor Rose leads an exploration of the book *Yearnings: Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life,* by Rabbi Irwin Kula. 7:30–9 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 4

Torah Fund Event: BIC Women's League. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 5

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, Noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. Cantor Rose leads an exploration of the book *Yearnings: Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life,* by Rabbi Irwin Kula. Noon-1:30 p.m.

Celebration and Presentation: JCC Seniors. Birthday celebration for all with May birthdays. Family and friends are invited to join group for lunch and birthday cake at 12:30 p.m. Followed at 1 p.m. by Irene Butter, a local Holocaust survivor who will speak in honor of Yom HaShaoah.

Rosh Chodesh Iyar: Women of the Wall. Service meets at the JCC. For information, contact lpbernstein@comcast.com. 9:30 p.m.

Continuing Adult Hebrew: TBE. Spring semester class. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 6

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Shabbat Services for Young Families: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. Tot and Sukkat Shalom dinner at 6:30 p.m. Sukkat Shalom and Shira at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle Oneg follows.

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Shabbat Service Yom HaShoah: TBE. This Holocaust Memorial Day Shabbat Service is written and organized by Generations After, a Caring Community group whose families perished or survived the Holocaust.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 7

Lay-led Torah Study: TBE. 8:50 a.m. in the chapel.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 9 a.m.

Shabbat Program: BIC BIRS. 6th Grade Shabbat morning program. 9:30 a.m.

Meeting: BIC Men's Club. 9:30 a.m.

Morning Service: TBE. In the chapel. 10 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of calendar.*

Sunday 8

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Yom Hazikaron Ceremony: BIC. Community celebration co-sponsored by a variety of organizations. 7 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 9

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Tuesday 10

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Wednesday 11

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Bring a dairy lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. Noon.

Thursday 12

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Presentation: JCC-Seniors: A nurse from Care Response will monitor blood pressures at 12:30 p.m., followed at 1 p.m. by a piano performance by local musician Martha Dalley.

Continuing Adult Hebrew: TBE. Spring semester class. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

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Service: TBE. Yom HaAtzmaut. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 14

Lay-led Torah Study: TBE. 8:50 a.m. in the chapel.

Morning Service: TBE. In the sanctuary. 10 a.m. and Noon.

Mini-Minyan: BIC. For K-2nd Graders. 11 a.m.

Kehillat Shabbat: BIC. For 3rd–5th Graders. 11 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of tcalendar.*

Sunday 15

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, plus an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Spring Clean-up and Planting: BIC Men's Club. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tiger's Game Outing: TBE TNT. Twenties and Thirties Group will attend Detroit Tigers–Kansas City Royals game. Car pools leave from TBE at noon for 1:05 p.m. start of game. $15. For information or to RSVP, contact Brett Willner at bwillner@templebethemeth.org or phone 665-4744.

Meet Camp Staff and Bowl: JCC-Youth. For all registered and prospective Camp Raanana campers. Meet Raanana counselors and staff and bowl at Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial Highway. No charge for bowling and snacks. For information, contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 3–5 p.m.

Kol Halev Joint Concert: TBE. Annual tradition with the choirs of Temple Beth Emeth and St. Clare of Assisi Church performing both separately and together. 6 p.m.

Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival: JCC. 10th annual festival returns to Ann Arbor, with 15 films over five days at the Michigan Theater. Sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor, in association with the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, and the Michigan Theater. 1:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. throughout the festival. $10/ticket. *Through May 19.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 16

Tot Story Hour: TBE. For tots and their caregivers, with Wendy Holden. TBE Library. 10–11 a.m.

Torah Trop: TBE. Ongoing weekly group with Cantor Annie Rose. Noon.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. Study of *M'tzora.* Led by Cantor Annie Rose. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 17

"Shabbat: An Oasis in Time:" Jewish Learning Institute. Explore the mystical, psychological,

social and cultural dimensions of Shabbat to unlock a model for how to find serenity and a transcendent frame of mind throughout life's experiences. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *Every Tuesday.*

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting for the patients of Mott Hospital, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Movie Tuesday: TBE. This month's movie is *Walk on Water (La'lechet al HaMayim).* The story centers on the relationship between an Israeli Mossad agent, Eyal, and a German man, Axel, whose grandfather is an aging wanted Nazi war criminal. 1–3 p.m.

Film Festival Trip: JCC Seniors. Trip to Michigan Theater for showing of *Ingelore,* the story of Ingelore Herz Honistein's escape from the Nazis, narrated in speech and sign language. Transportation will leave the JCC at 12:30 p.m. Film showing at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Beginning Adult Hebrew: TBE. Spring semester class. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 18

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Bring a dairy lunch. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Noon.

Thursday 19

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Film Festival Trip: JCC Seniors. Trip to the Michigan Theater for showing of *Brothers,* the story of the conflict between brothers reflecting that of a society torn between its religious and political principles. Transportation will leave the JCC at 12:30 for film showing at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 20

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Shabbat Services for Young Families: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. Tot and Sukkat Shalom dinner at 6:30 p.m. Sukkat Shalom and Shira at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle Oneg follows.

Shabbat Dinner: TBE. Once monthly adult dinner held before services. $10/adult; $5/children ages 12 and under. Reserve at www.templebethemeth.org or phone 665-4744. 6 p.m.

A SERIES ON ARCHITECTURAL TECHNIQUE

MICHIGAN LIGHT *as a* design tool

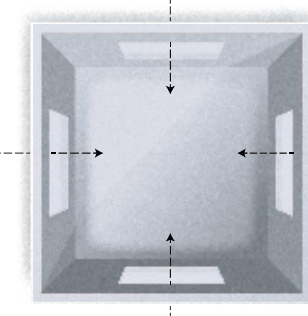
LIKE SUNLIGHT EVERYWHERE, Michigan sunlight has multiple personalities. It ranges from direct light—bright enough to cast shadows; to diffuse light—uniform, reflected light that only illuminates. But in Michigan, fully bright skies (skies with less than 30 percent cloud cover) occur fewer than 100 days each year. Clouds turn direct light into diffuse light and reduce its brightness. So, on most days, the Michigan home receives sunlight at less than full potential.

NORTHERN LIGHT

Diffuse, even, blue light. Paint the room blue to create a calm, serene environment with luminous, glowing walls. There will be less glare in the room filled with northern light—a good choice for a home office/computer environment, a tranquil reading nook or the perfect artist's studio.

WESTERN LIGHT

Heat gain and significant glare make this light the most challenging with which to work. Though a sunset view may seem a tempting addition to the evening meal, low sun angles at the end of the day bring uncomfortable glare. A solution may be narrow windows at the room's edges allowing the orange sunlight to enter the room, yet keeping it out of the eyes of those at the dinner table.



EASTERN LIGHT

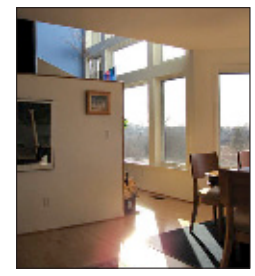
Deeply penetrating, early morning light. Energize bedrooms and bathrooms with direct morning light for a bright outlook on the new day. And downstairs, give the Breakfast Room a generous east-facing window. As noon approaches, light penetration becomes shallower. And after lunch, direct sunlight is gone and east-facing rooms lose their bright punch.

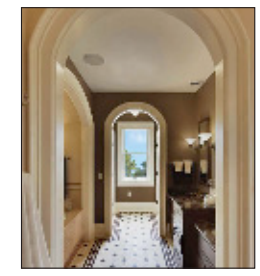
SOUTHERN LIGHT

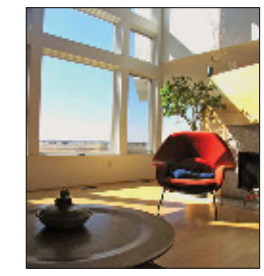
Direct, bright and dynamic. Light from south-facing windows charts the sun's movement with shifting patterns of light and shadow. Light is maximized from this direction because it includes both late morning and early afternoon light. This is a great place for a window seat (especially in winter). It is also the best spot for stained glass—the colors will glow longest and brightest here.

...and when the sun *does* shine

Full Michigan sunshine, present only on those 100 days of clear, blue skies each year, should not be squandered. Window seats in sunny spots and well-placed stained glass are two great ways to celebrate sunlight with architecture. Shadows enrich architecture and can be cast by architectural trim details, textured surfaces, or screens mounted near windows that throw shadow patterns on interior surfaces. Light from a skylight located near a wall can emphasize the wall's texture or highlight a wall-mounted display. Wall openings in interior spaces, pass-throughs that "borrow" light from adjacent rooms, work best when oriented towards the sun.







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Calendar

Friday Night Lights: BIC. Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6 p.m., followed by a family friendly Shabbat dinner at 7 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. A special Shabbat celebration with a musical service featuring the music of two great American Jewish composers, Hugo Chaim Adler and his son Samuel Adler. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 21

Lay-led Torah Study: TBE. 8:50 a.m. in the chapel.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 9 a.m.

Shabbat Service: BIC. Honoring High School graduates. 9:30 a.m.

Morning Service: TBE. In the sanctuary. 10 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of calendar.*

Sunday 22

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Lag B'omer Picnic: Chabad. Annual picnic dinner of hotdogs, salads, and drinks. Programs and prizes for children and adults. Bring blankets and Frisbees. Time and location TBD.

Jewish Hikers: TBE. The hike will leave from the JCC at the conclusion of Celebrate Israel and walk to Brown Park on Verle Street. For information, contact Eli Avny at 883-9522 or email jewishhikers@gmail.com.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 23

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Torah Trop: TBE. Ongoing weekly group with Cantor Annie Rose. Noon.

Tuesday 24

"Shabbat: An Oasis in Time:" Jewish Learning Institute. Explore the mystical, psychological, social and cultural dimensions of Shabbat to unlock a model for how to find serenity and a transcendent frame of mind throughout life's experiences. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *Every Tuesday.*

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Babysitting Class: JCC–Youth. This Red Cross Class will teach child safety, first aid, baby care and developmentally appropriate play. Upon successful completion of both days, students will receive a Red Cross certification card. Students must have turned 11 by the start of class to receive certification, although younger students may also participate. $80/JCC members; $100/non-members. Registration and payment due by May 10. For information, contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 4–7 p.m.

Family BBQ: BIC. For 5th Grade class in honor of receiving bar/bat mitzvah dates. 6 p.m.

Beginning Adult Hebrew: TBE. Spring semester class. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 25

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Bring a dairy lunch. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Noon.

Afternoon Delights Concert: JCC Seniors. Concert with violinist Barbara Sturgis-Everett. $8 at the door. 1 p.m.

Men's Torah Study: TBE. Includes learning, lively discussion, and a bit of fun. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Roger Stutesman at rgstutesman@sbcglobal.net. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 26

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Performance: JCC Seniors. Music students of Hebrew Day School will perform vocal, instrumental and klezmer music. 1 p.m.

Continuing Adult Hebrew: TBE. Spring semester class. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 27

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Shabbat Services for Young Families: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. Tot and Sukkat Shalom dinner at 6:30 p.m. Sukkat Shalom and Shira at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle Oneg follows.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 28

Lay-led Torah Study: TBE. 8:50 a.m. in the chapel.

Morning Service: TBE. In the sanctuary. 10 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of calendar.*

Sunday 29

Geocaching Event: BIC. First annual event. (Rain date is May 30). 9 a.m.

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

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Tuesday 31

"Shabbat: An Oasis in Time:" Jewish Learning Institute. Explore the mystical, psychological, social and cultural dimensions of Shabbat to unlock a model for how to find serenity and a transcendent frame of mind throughout life's experiences. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *Every Tuesday.*

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Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Beginning Adult Hebrew: TBE. Spring semester class. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call 994-9258 in advance to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Sukkat Shalom service at 6:30 p.m. for "tot grads," preceded by dinner. Shira at 6:30 p.m. Oneg for Tot and Sukkat Shalom families at 7 p.m. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. 6:15 PM at the JCC the last Friday each month. Musical Shabbat service followed by vegetarian potluck. Tot Shabbat with optional kid's pizza dinner at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. For information, call 913-9705, email info@aarecon.org or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candlelighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call 662-5805 for information. Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. UM Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. Morning childcare from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services: AA Reconstructionist Havurah. Discussion-based format with topics changing monthly. For info, email info@aarecon.org or call 913-9705 or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study with Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Delson and lay leaders at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah (AARH)
P.O. Box 7451, Ann Arbor 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276

Hillel at EMU
965 Washtenaw Ave., Ypsilanti 482-0456

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744

UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

May 6	**8:21 p.m.**
May 13	**8:28 p.m.**
May 20	**8:36 p.m.**
May 27	**8:42 p.m.**

A community celebration that fights hunger where we live

Sunday, June 12
3-8 PM
(rain or shine)

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
5055 Ann Arbor Saline Road

The Cause
We believe that in a nation of plenty, no one should go hungry! Proceeds from Grillin' enable Food Gatherers to distribute more than 5 million pounds of food annually to 160 non-profit programs serving low-income people in Washtenaw County.

A picnic with a purpose!
- Grilled chicken and sausages; salads and side dishes from some of our area's best food purveyors and desserts from Zingerman's Bakehouse and Creamery
- Live bands featuring the musical talents of George Bedard and the Kingpins, Laith Al-Saadi, and The RFD Boys
- Food inspired silent auction
- Fun for kids of all ages hosted by the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum
- Cash beer and wine

Tickets: $50/Adults ($40 tax-deductible)
$10/Kids ages 3-13 ($7 tax-deductible)

Tickets at the door:
$60 Adults/$10 Kids

Purchase tickets online at www.foodgatherers.org or call us at 734.761.2796.

Additional ticket sales locations: Zingerman's (Deli, Bakehouse or Roadhouse), Saline Picture Frame Co. and Dexter Picture Frame Co.

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Moosewood legend Mollie Katzen dishes on her Jewish roots

By Sue Fishkoff

BERKELEY, Calif. (JTA) – Cookbook maven Mollie Katzen is in her Berkeley kitchen whipping up a little dinner for her daughter, who is home visiting from college.

"Steamed artichoke and mashed parsnips," Katzen says, describing the contents of the two pots on the stove. "Last night was eggplant in sesame miso sauce. She's a real vegetable hound."

That's not surprising.

Before Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, before Alice Waters and California Cuisine, there was Katzen, whose 1977 publication of *The Moosewood Cookbook* shifted vegetarian cooking to the forefront of America's food consciousness.

Working from recipes developed at the Moosewood Restaurant, a largely vegetarian eatery started by a collective of friends in 1973 in Ithaca, New York, Katzen introduced a generation of home chefs to exotica such as tofu, tamari, alfalfa sprouts, and brown rice – "increasingly available," she wrote in 1977, in the "health foods sections" of certain supermarkets.

That first cookbook and its 1982 follow-up, *The Enchanted Broccoli Forest*, posited meatless meals as a viable, delicious choice at a time when dinner meant steak and potatoes, and vegetables came more often from the freezer than from the garden.

Now 60 years old and working on a new project -- trying out recipes for an upcoming book on comfort food -- this Jewish Californian woman is a big name in the world of foodies. She has more than 6 million books in print, was named by *The New York Times* as one of the best-selling cookbook authors of all time, and is a member of the James Beard Cookbook Hall of Fame. Katzen is a syndicated columnist, a contributing editor, and a food consultant, as well as co-creator of Harvard University's Food Literacy Project.

Although Katzen is not known as a Jewish chef and has no Jewish cookbooks to her name, she says her approach to food is deeply rooted in her upbringing in an observant Conservative home in Rochester, New York.

"Kashrut is the beginning," she says. "Keeping food sacred is real important to me. Even a bowl of popcorn in front of the TV, I love to 'behold' the popcorn, and not just mindlessly reach in and eat it."

On Friday nights when she was growing up, dinner was served in the dining room, not the kitchen, Katzen recalls. The scent of her grandmother's fresh-baked challah would

Mollie Katzen

waft in, and as the family sat down and said the prayers over the bread and wine, she "felt the house transformed" for the Sabbath.

"Being grateful for food, slowing down around food -- that's what was sacred for me, and this was all in kashrut," she says. "I'm not observant now, but the infrastructure of sacred and profane stayed with me."

That notion of consciously showing gratitude for food influenced her cooking style as well as her diet, according to Katzen. Despite her vegetarian cookbooks, she is not a strict vegetarian, nor does she promote the lifestyle. However, she says, she'd always choose plain chicken and some fresh vegetables over a bowl of fettuccine Alfredo swimming in its own cream and butter.

"I've met many self-labeled vegetarians who eat terribly," she says. "I'll eat a little meat, if it's sustainably raised and nicely prepared, but I want my plate to be mostly vegetables and whole grains."

Judaism also colored her approach to meat. Meat, she says, was "a big focal point" in her childhood meals, and although her mother couldn't always find kosher meat in their local grocery stores, she would buy kosher cuts and always the best quality she could get.

"I grew up with the attitude that meat must be high quality; it must be sustainable," Katzen says. "I was never categorically against eating meat. You have to be mindful about it; you have to talk about it consciously, seriously. To this day, I've never tasted a fast-food burger."

So much of what she expresses is textbook California foodie doctrine: eating lots of fruits, vegetables and whole grains; slowing down and respecting the source of one's food; focusing on sustainability; and using fresh, simple ingredients. Jewish dietary practice has a lot in common with the new food movement, she says – they're both morally based, spiritual disciplines.

When she left home for Cornell University in the late 1960s, Katzen says, she shied away from the "mystery meat" on her college meal plan. Part of that was political. At the time, she had an ethos of avoiding meat as a statement against the Vietnam War and corporate America in general, she notes, as well as a desire to annoy her parents – but much of it came from her religious background.

"I didn't trust meat out in the world. That was my Jewish upbringing," she says. "Kashrut gave me a sense of: What's the origin of my meat?"

Katzen travels widely to speak about her books, and she takes part in fundraisers for local Jewish causes in the San Francisco Bay area when friends ask. Her brother and his family live near Tel Aviv, so she visits Israel often. And although she is not a member of a synagogue now, she was when her children were growing up. Her son became a bar mitzvah at a Conservative synagogue in Berkeley, and her daughter attended Jewish day school.

So yes, she very much looks at food through a Jewish lens, Katzen says. "My upbringing in kashrut," she says, "plus my sense of environmentalism and commitment to sustainable food equals where I am now." .■

Wasserman Schultz, continued from page 24

candidate in Ohio who had dressed up in Nazi regalia for SS re-enactments.

Cantor repudiated the candidate, and then Wasserman Schultz suggested he was succumbing to her on-air pressure. "You know good and well that I don't support anything like that," an annoyed Cantor said.

Off the record, Jewish leaders say Wasserman Schultz will ratchet up the pressure on the Jewish establishment to back Democratic initiatives. Eric Golub, a Jewish blogger for the conservative Washington Times, calls her the Democrats' "Jew shrew" because of her partisanship.

Rood, her former staffer, ridicules such slurs. "She enjoys working with the other side," she said. "But she's in the leadership, so of course she's going to be partisan."

Carusone, Rood and others also cited Wasserman Schultz as an example of a lawmaker able to balance a career with a young family. Wasserman Schultz often can be seen walking around Capitol Hill, one of her three young children by her side, chatting animatedly. She has said many times that she would not be able to pull it off without her husband.

Wasserman Schultz's frankness about the difficulties of juggling parenthood and a career made her a natural party spokesman for women in the 2008 and 2010 campaigns, and she often refers to her children in explaining her support for reforming health care and attacking poverty.

"She's a mother of young children, so she gets the balancing," said Carol Brick Turin, the director of the Miami-area Jewish Community Relations Council.

That openness made it all the more shocking when she revealed in March 2009 that she had battled, and defeated, breast cancer. Associates say that's typical of a woman who has managed a highly public career while maintaining an intense privacy around her family.

Still, she remains loyal and available to friends from the earliest years of her career. When she attended a Chabad event recently, she picked out and warmly greeted Rabbi Aron Lieberman, a Fort Lauderdale Chabad director. As a 20-year-old staffer in Deutsch's office, it had been her job to pick up Lieberman from the airport for the monthly classes Deutsch had with the rabbi.

The fact that she remembered Lieberman, never mind deferred to him, took aback the assembled rabbis, said Rabbi Levi Shemtov, the director of American Friends of Lubavitch.

"She's energetic, dynamic, aggressive and well respected even by those who might not agree with her on the policy level," he said. ■.

Vitals

Mazel tov

Connor Todd on his bar mitzvah, May 7.
Leah Kaplan on her bat mitzvah, May 14.
Catherine Moss on her bat mitzvah, May 7.
Andrew Gechter on his bar mitzvah, May 7.
Henry Abrams on his bar mitzvah, May 14.
Matthew Parson on his bar mitzvah, May 14.
Sofie Aaron on her bat mitzvah, May 21.
Eleanor Olson on her bat mitzvah, May 28.
Eve Zikmund-Fisher on her bat mitzvah, May 28.
Nancy and Jerry Schleicher, and Roberta and Larry Tankanow, on the marriage of their children, Jennifer and Andy, December 4.
Rabbi Lisa Delson on her engagement to Brent Pilskow.

Condolences

Sue Rebner on the death of her father, Hyman Weinman, March 10.
David Hamermesh on the death of his grandmother, Madeline Hamermesh, March 12.
Rebecca Kanner on the death of her mother, Lorene Kanner, March 18.
Benjamin Taub on the death of his father, Sylvan Taub, March 30.
Howard Stewart on the death of his sister, Katherine Stewart, March 10.
Simone Yehuda on the death of her father, Walter Juda, March 15.
Marc Kessler on the death of his aunt, Evelyn Kessler, March 21.
Andrew Caughey on the death of his mother, Pearl Bragman Caughey, March 28.
Ivy Krasnow on the death of her father, Harold M. Horwitz, April 4.
Sonya Freiband on the death of her mother.

Advertisers

Afternoon Delight 3
Amadeus Cafe/Patisserie 2
Ann Arbor Public School Educational Foundation 14
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah 28
Ann Arbor Summer Festival 32
Susan Ayer Photography 2
Bank of Ann Arbor 25
Bennett Optometry 35
Bivouac 13
Bread Basket Deli 23
Camp Gan Israel 19
Cardea Construction 14
Center for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery 5
Chelsea Rare Coins 16
Chelsea Flower Shop 23
Dennis Platte Graphic Design 3
Encore Online Resale 3
Fawzi's Westgate Auto Repair 11
Food Gatherers (Grillin') 34
Genesis of Ann Arbor 24
Gold Bond Cleaners 15
Cantor Samuel Greenbaum; mohel 25
Innovations Decor and Design 5
JCC Camp Raanana 19
Jewish Family Services 6
Jewish Federation 36
Joe Cornell Entertainment 25
Ken Lussenden
KSF Architects, Keith Fineberg, Architect 31
Lewis Jewelers 5
Mast Shoes 13
Mercy's Restaurant 35
Modern Mechanical 25
Paper Station 2
People's Food Co-op 23
Michal Porath, Realtor 23
Probility Physical Therapies 13
R.D. Kleinschmidt 15
River Raisin Ragtime Band 21
Simply Scrumptious 24
United Bank & Trust 28
University Musical Society 9
Village Apothecary 2
Zingerman's 35

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